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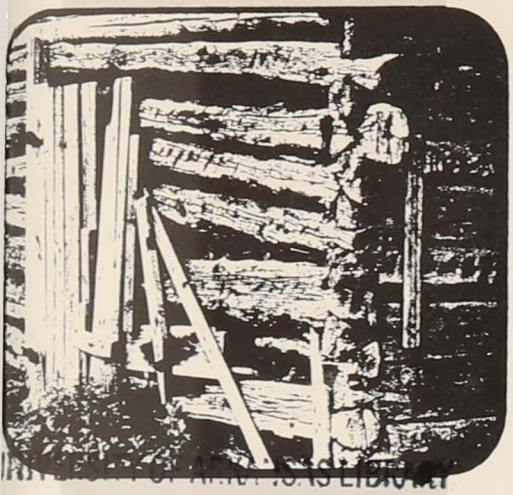
# FLASHBACK



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FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

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Nathan Combs Home

*Headquarters House*

118 East Dickson Street
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS 72701

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Here it is, FINALLY--Volume XXI, No. 1. Sorry we're so late, but we promise to do better in the future.

As many of you already know, several changes have been made in your Society this year and we hope they will be of benefit to all.

The major change is moving of the Society's offices from Headquarters House to the former garage on the northwest corner of the grounds. Tom Lavender and the buildings and grounds committee did a fine job of converting the garage into a delightful office.

They installed paneling on the walls, put in windows, a concrete floor and added heating and lighting. All records of the Society have been moved to the new office and therein may lie a problem.

During the move we unearthed several items which apparently have been buried under several years' accumulation of materials. Since we have a new editorial staff and new secretary-treasurer, it is impossible to know to whom some of the items should be credited--and if they have been given to the Society or are merely on loan. There is also a possibility that items presented for publication in FLASHBACK may have been misplaced during the change in leadership and the physical moving of the office.

So, we need your help. If you have given the Society items for publication and they have not been used or acknowledged, drop us a line and we'll see if we can determine what happened. Several people have already asked about items--and we're looking...

Among items we discovered during the move is an old ledger book for 1860. Although the front of the book has been torn away, in the back are records of Ferguson, Gray and Barron--apparently an early store owned at various times by Ferguson and Gray and by Ferguson and Barron. This old ledger contains a good story, but we need more information, especially to identify the person to whom the ledger belonged.

The other major change in the Society is in the editorship of FLASHBACK. This year we have a three-member editorial staff charged with preparation of FLASHBACK, and other publications of the Society.

We're all three novices at preparing a quarterly and we've been trying to make a few changes, so we hope you'll be patient with us for a while.

We've made a change in the cover of FLASHBACK this month. The design credit goes to Ken Good who is also assisting with the layout of inside picture pages. Ken promises to give us more help in the future.

This is our first effort. We would like to make FLASHBACK a top notch quarterly, so if you have material for publication, or suggestions for improvement, let us know.

While the primary purpose of the Society is to preserve and publish the history of Washington County, it is impossible to separate completely the history of the area from the history of its people.

Genealogy is now the third largest "do-it-yourself" hobby in the United States. Many members of the Society are involved in tracing their ancestry. When a genealogist discovers a fellow genealogist in a given area, they often ask for help from that person.

Three such letters have come to Dorris Hendrickson, one of your editors, during recent weeks. If you have information that will help these people, please drop them a line. We're certain they will be grateful.

Dr. Rulon N. Smithson, Route 1, West Adams Road, Macomb, Illinois 61455 is trying to find more information about his ancestor B. A. SMITHSON who served Fayetteville in many capacities in the early days. He was performing marriages here as early as 1832 and later served as postmaster and at the time of the 1850 census, he was listed as the county's sheriff.

Mrs. John Moyer, 3514 Lamar, Amarillo, Texas 79109 is looking for information on her ancestors who lived in Washington County. She is especially interested in her great-grandmother, SARAH ELIZABETH PHELAN who married, first MILES PRUITT (PRUET). Married, second THOMAS BRINSON, and married, third G. C. NEWMAN. Sarah Elizabeth died, as Mrs. Newman, about 1917 when she was in her late 80's or early 90's. Mrs. Moyer says she was "one of the first women doctors in the country and made her housecalls on horseback." Sarah Elizabeth made her home in Fayetteville from the time she was a small girl. She was buried in the Combs Chapel Cemetery. Mrs. Moyer is also interested in the surname WADDLE. If we can help her, perhaps she will give us an interesting story on this early woman doctor.

Mrs. Lahoma Haddock Goldsmith, 1614 Park Lane Drive, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 is trying to find any records on the surname HADDOCK (HADDOX) in this area.

Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson Street
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

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## A REMINDER

When you write to county officials or other individuals requesting information on family history, courtesy demands that you enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a reply.

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## REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Lynn F. Wade was re-elected president of the Washington County Historical Society for a second term at the annual meeting held January 31, 1971 at the hospitality room of the Southwestern Electric Power Co.

Bunn Bell was elected to a second term as vice president, and Lloyd McConnell was named secretary-treasurer. New Board members are: Louis Lichlyter of Springdale; Boyce Davis of Lincoln, and Mrs. A. D. Donat of Fayetteville. They succeed Russell Broyles of Farmington, H. E. Henson of Springdale, and Mrs. Peggy Parks of Prairie Grove.

Tom Feathers, a charter member who has served for 20 years in a leadership positition, was presented a life membership.

Contributions of $100 from Clifton Wade and $50 from Al Eason, Jr. were announced and will go toward maintenance of Headquarters House.

Tom Lavender, chairman of the Board's House Committee, announced the basement had been waterproofed and the garage remodeled and modernized with heat and lights installed.

Mrs. Helen Lewis Bocquin, co-chairman of the House Furnishings Committee, announced new acquisitions for the Headquarters House. She reported the Women's Civic Club had purchased a large mirror, placed over the mantel; new glass curtains for the library and dining room; a glass lamp shade for the blue cobalt oil lamp, and a walnut balloon back side chair. A marble-topped table has also been added to the parlor.

She also said an altar side chair, used in a small white Roman Catholic Church here, had been given the house by the estate of Mrs. J. Wythe Walker, the former Mayme Byrnes, in memory of the Albert M. Byrnes family. The chair was in Mrs. Walker's home in Atlanta, Georgia, and was crated and shipped here by Emma Byrnes Barnes, Mrs. Walker's sister.

Mrs. William C. Bryson presented a cassette containing toilet articles and needlework implements used in the 1860s and Mrs. Redding Putman, some steel-rimmed spectacles of the same period and a pair of brass and onyx candelabra.

The estate of Miss Willie Kantz left a legacy to the house of a cherry Empire chest of drawers, a walnut cannon ball poster bed, an antique daybed and a cot.

Mrs. William Meldrum, chairman of the Hostess Committee, reported that 344 persons registered as visitors to Headquarters House during the past season.

Members toured Headquarters House following the meeting and inspected the remodeling of the garage.

At a February 11, 1971 meeting of the Board of Directors it was voted to use the remodeled garage as office for the Society. This action frees space now occupied in the Headquarters House to be renovated for caretaker space. The directors agreed to leave the museum in its present location for the present time.

A committee, composed of Lloyd McConnell, Bunn Bell, Tom Lavender and Pat Donat, was appointed to prepare a budget for the upcoming year.

D. E. Manske, chairman of the Museum Committee, discussed codification of the Society's papers which is now underway.

Mrs. Russell Purdy of Fayetteville was announced as a new member of the House Furnishings Committee, and Miss Betty Askew will serve as chairman of the Hostess Committee.

Larry L. Browne reported on landscaping plans and was appointed chairman of the committee to oversee the project and make long-term plans.

McConnell reported 274 memberships for 1971.

The Society's Board of Directors for 1971-72 is as follows: Mrs. Mildred Lavender, 420 North Sang, Fayetteville; Bernice Karnes, 513 West Spring, Fayetteville; Col. Larry Browne, Jr., 210 West Maple, Fayetteville; Floyd Carl, Jr., 325 Louise, Fayetteville; Tom Rothrock, Route 4, Springdale; Mrs. Pat Donat, 1818 Susan Dr., Fayetteville; Louis Lichlyter, 1312 Rogers, Springdale; and Boyce Davis, Lincoln.

Committee chairmen appointed include: Library Committee, Tom Feathers; Museum Committee, D. E. Manske; Publications Committee, Floyd Carl, Jr.; Cemetery Research Committee, R. R. Logan; Public Relations Committee, Pat Donat; Program Committee, Mildred Lavender; Membership Committee, Lloyd McConnell; Headquarters House, Tom Lavender; Headquarters House Furnishings, Bunn Bell and Helen Bocquin; and Headquarters House Hostess Committee, Betty Askew.

Dorris Hendrickson is the new editor of the FLASHBACK and Floyd Carl, Jr. and Pat Donat will be staff members.

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Membership in the Washington County Historical Society costs $3 per year. This fee entitles the subscriber to receive all copies of FLASHBACK, the official publication of the Society. FLASHBACK is a quarterly, which contains 50-60 pages with pictures of early history of Washington County and its people.

Many members also wish to contribute to the Society. A $100.00 contribution entitles a donor to a life membership in the Society. Small contributions are used to purchase the things necessary to keep HEADQUARTERS HOUSE open to the public during the season.

Your contributions are deductible--and greatly appreciated.

# A FAYETTEVILLE-BUILT AIRPLANE

by Floyd Carl, Jr.

The adult population of Fayetteville was so little impressed by the efforts of Fayetteville's first airplane builder in the winter of 1918-1919 that even his first name has been lost over the long years since he dreamed, glued and bolted his flying machine together in a livery stable on East Mountain Street.

His last name comes down to us because he painted it proudly on the fuselage of his strange four-winged aircraft. "Zerbe Air Sedan" it reads in the old photograph that remains to testify to his unsuccessful attempt to master the sky.

Zerbe's airplane, born of plywood and a faulty concept of aeronautical principles, was clearly aimed not simply at flight--as were most of the aircraft of the period--but at air transportation. Its enclosed cabin, a rarity for the time, was designed to seat five or more persons in comfort.

The air sedan actually got into the air briefly one March afternoon in 1919, dragged by the power of its big surplus World War I airplane engine, but it proved incapable of sustained flight, was damaged in landing, and the project abandoned.

What became of Mr. Zerbe and his flying machine? No one, at this distance in time, remembers. Zerbe himself apparently left Fayetteville shortly after his machine's failure and it appears likely the airplane was simply junked. Its big LeRhone rotary engine, brand new from surplus when it was installed, was quite valuable and probably went in time to some other airplane builder or owner.

Zerbe brought his dream to Fayetteville sometime in early 1918, while World War I was still filling the skies of France with military aircraft--some of them very good machines indeed for their day and time. The success of their designs seems to have made little impression on Zerbe, who simply ignored the great strides airplane design had made during the war years.

His machine was to be built entirely of plywood, seating pilot and passengers inside the enclosed cabin and boasting four stubby wooden wings, supported on booms and ranging in a downward stagger from nose to tail.

Close study of the existing photograph, made at the old Washington County Fairgrounds on the day of the test flight, fails to show any attempt to provide lateral control, a failure calculated to prove fatal in an aircraft. The four wings themselves were hinged so that their angle could be changed by the pilot, a design feature considered by today's pilots to be useful only in stalling all four wings at the same time.

Zerbe, it appears, had built an earlier flying machine. The Time and Life book, "This Fabulous Century," shows a picture of a queer, five-winged machine built around a bicycle and identified

only as "Zerbe's quintaplane for the year 1910." The caption also notes that the plane was unsuccessful.

Undiscouraged by the failure of his earlier design, Zerbe rented space in Cal's Livery Stable on East Mountain Street, a business located on the south side of the street near mid-block. There, ignored by all but the town's small boys, he worked through the winter assembling his strange flying machine.

It is in the memory of the boys who watched as Zerbe built his machine that is memory lives on Both Edmond Watson and Tom Feathers remember him clearly. Both were carrier boys for the old Fayetteville Democrat, located only a block away from Cal's Livery Stable on Center Street.

The old Democrat published its daily edition rather late in the afternoon, leaving its carriers with time on their hands between the close of school and distribution of their papers. Some of them spent the time watching Zerbe's strange machine grow.

"It was built entirely of plywood," Feathers recalls. Watson agreed, adding that the plane had a strange, "square" appearance. Watson agrees, adding that while Zerbe may have been weak on aeronautical science, he was strong on cabinet work. "The workmanship was very good," he says.

As work on the airframe neared completion in the early weeks of 1919, Zerbe called in Nolan Webster, chief mechanic for the Ford Motor Company to install the French-designed rotary engine he had obtained from military surplus. Webster brought with him a young mechanic, Dudley Smith, to help with the job.

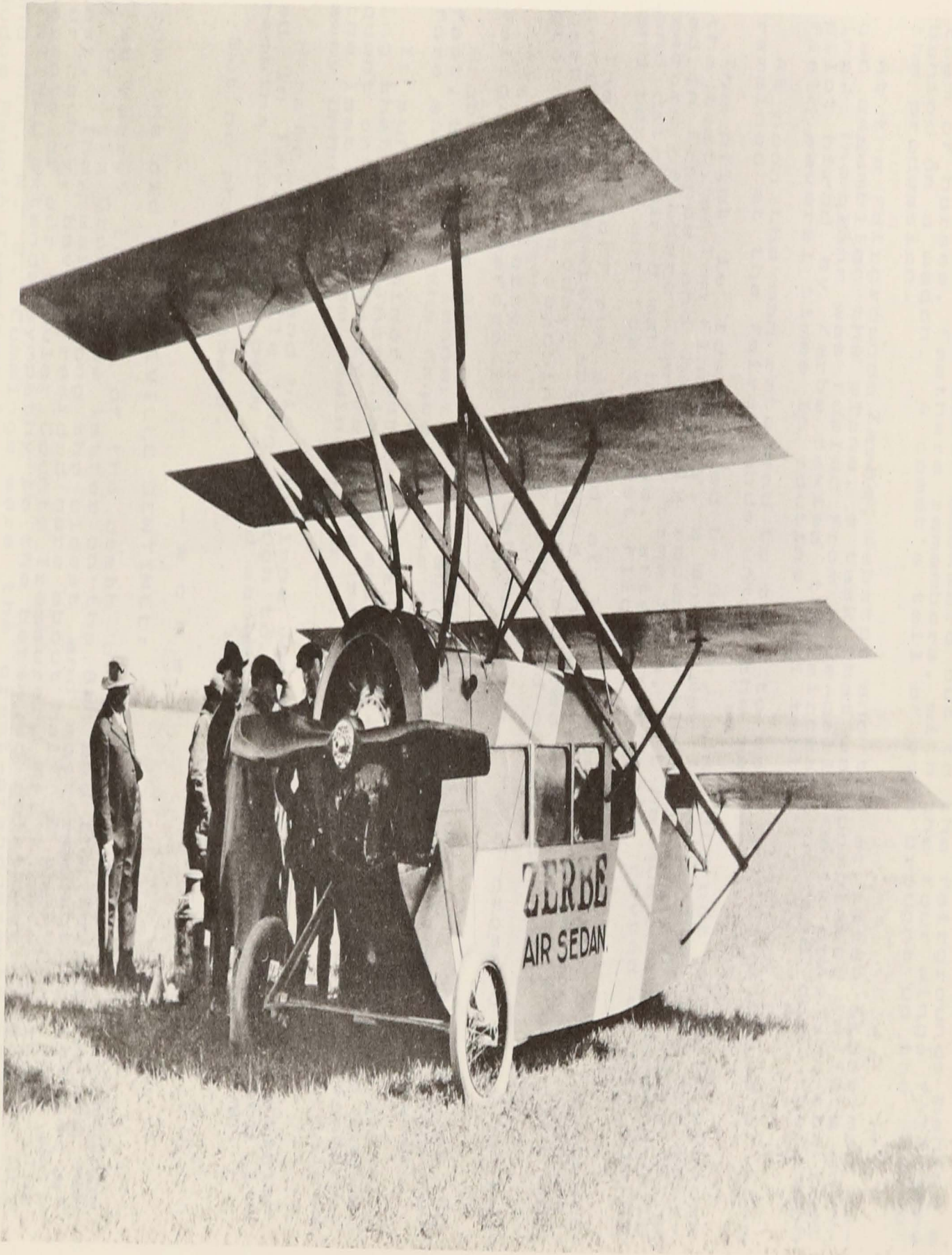
Smith, now retired and living in Fayetteville, recalled details of the engine's installation and testing. Interviewed at his home at 321 West Lafayette Street, he verified the type of engine used, remembering that it was still packed in the original crate when he and Webster first saw it.

The fuselage of the airplane was towed to the Ford Motor Company when located on North East Street on the site of the present Whitfield Motor Company. With Smith's help Webster installed the engine, fuel tank and engine controls, tied the fuselage down with rope and tested the engine inside the shop building.

Rotary engines, almost forgotten today, looked much like today's radial aircraft engines. Unlike modern engines, however, the entire engine rotated around a fixed crankshaft. The propeller was bolted solidly to the engine and turned with it.

When they started the big engine it almost broke the plane free from its restraining ropes, Smith said, even without using the full power of its nine cylinders.

Tom Feathers was one of the small boys who tagged along to the county fairgrounds on the day the plane was tested. The test was probably in March of 1919, and must have been made on a Saturday, since the boys who witnessed it were out of school.


ZERBE
AIR SEDAN

The fuselage was towed backward out to the fairgrounds behind a team of horses, Feathers remembers, with the four wings following behind on a wagon. A comet's tail of boys brought up the rear of the procession.

At the fairgrounds Zerbe, Webster and two or three other men began assembling the plane, a task that was completed in late morning. The plane was fueled from five-gallon milk cans and the test pilot hired by Zerbe taxied the aircraft up and down the rough field several times in routine taxi tests.

At noon the men returned to town to eat, but the crowd of boys remained at the fairgrounds until the men returned.

The pilot is identified by Smith, who did not himself witness the test, as Tom Flannerty, a World War I Army pilot who had served in France and had only recently been discharged. There is no record of where Flannerty came from, but he must have been a bold and determined man because, after lunch, he revved up the engine and taxied out for the test flight.

The take-off run started at the south end of the old racetrack infield, located about where the University of Arkansas baseball park stands today. The plane gathered speed quickly and left the ground before reaching the other end of the circular track.

"It flew pretty high," Feathers says, "and crossed most of the fairgrounds before it landed."

Probably the Air Sedan attained an altitude of only 40 or 50 feet, because Flannerty was able to land and come to a stop before striking the fence at the northeast corner of the grounds.

It suffered minor damage and there were no more attempts at flying that day. There is some evidence to indicate that on subsequent days Flannerty made one or more attempts to fly the machine, the last of them ending in a crash from which the pilot walked away unhurt.

Here Mr. Zerbe and his airplane vanish. Zerbe must have remained in Fayetteville long enough to dispose of his plane, and its remains must have been stored somewhere, at least for a time.

But no one remembers.

- w c h s -

From the old FAYETTEVILLE SENTINEL:

We regret to hear of the death of Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Cummings of Prairie Grove, the latter on the 8th and the former on the 9th inst. They were among the oldest and most respected citizens of our county, having resided here about half a century. They were parents of our popular County Treasurer, Mr. K. C. Cummings. The SENTINEL extends sympathy to the bereaved relatives. (Note: Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Cummings were the great-grandparents of Circuit Judge Maupin Cummings.)

## THESE PASSING YEARS

(Editor's Note: Malcolm J. Shannon, of 416½ Fernleaf, Corona del Mar, California, 92625, has submitted this history of his branch of the Shannon family, which came to this area before Washington County was formed. Mrs. Kenneth R. Taylor, 5424 E. 17th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74112 is also working on the Shannon family. If any of our members can help these researchers, drop them a line.- DH)

Of the "Early Shannons" in Arkansas I will try to follow the life of Isaac Shannon and his descendants, as he was my great-grandfather.

According to Miss Clara B. Eno's "History of Crawford County," Isaac Shannon was a land owner and on the tax list as early as 1821. Other settlers coming later were the Paynes and the Blacks who settled in Lee's Creek township. Hugh Shannon and a few more families moved on into Washington County in 1826. Not much information is to be had because so much was lost when the courthouse at Van Buren was burned during the Civil War.

Isaac married Jamima Black and to them four children were born, all in Crawford County, as far as I know:

Margaret Jane - b. 1827, d. 1897, m. Ammon Payne

James Houston - b. 12 Jan. 1829, d. 1 Aug. 1864, m. Lucinda Eda Edmiston 4 Sept. 1851

William H. (Grandfather) - b. Mar. 1835, d. 26 Jan. 1878, m. Sarah E. Drake 15 Sept. 1859 by Rev. N. Givens

John L. - b. 11 Aug. 1837, d. 7 Aug. 1912, m. Mary Joyce 21 Aug. 1860

Records show that Isaac Shannon and family moved to Washington County around 1845 and settled in the Vineyard area near Evansville.

William H. Shannon married Sarah E. Drake Sept. 15, 1859, daughter of James and Margaret (Fields) Drake, and built a home on the east side of Bush Valley near Jordan Creek. Four children were born of this union: Samuel, Ella Mae, Thomas H. (my father), and Sarah Lilly.

Not long after they were married the worst thing that could happen to a country happened here in America: Civil War. The country was divided over the question of slavery, father against son and brother against brother. This area and era was most severe for human survival. A radius of 50 miles from Fayetteville contains more history than any other of similar size in the U.S.

During the latter part of the Civil War, gangs of bushwhackers operated between southwest Missouri and Crawford County, Arkansas.

They rounded up cattle, horses, anything they could eat or wear--they took everything. After the battle of Pea Ridge in the spring of 1862, and before the battle of Prairie Grove on Dec. 7, 1862 many citizens of Washington and Crawford counties became fearful of the Federal army, left their homes and went to Texas.

Samuel Shannon, the first child of William H. Shannon and Sarah (Drake) Shannon, was born 2 Sept. 1862. He was only a few months old at the time of the Battle of Prairie Grove when his mother, grandfather, grandmother, Isaac and Jamima Shannon went to Sherman, Texas for the duration of the war, traveling by wagon and horseback.

Sam Shannon married Louisa Sparks 6 Feb. 1879. Their children:

Myrtle - b. 24 Feb. 1880, d. 10 Nov. 1964, m. Robert Collins

Colman - b. 6 Aug. 1882, d. 30 Aug. 1937, m. M. Goldman

Henry - b. 24 Dec. 1884, d. 7 Oct. 1970, m. Lydia David

Thomas - b. 16 Apr. 1887, d. 7 Mar. 1927, m. Vivian Thomas

Maud - b. 5 Sept. 1889, m. Monroe Thomas

John - b. 24 Sept. 1891, m. 1st Eula Patterson, m. 2nd Mary Oliver

Lillie - b. 14 Feb. 1893, d. 9 June 1946, m. George Davis

Bryant - b. 13 Apr. 1896, d. 9 Sept. 1950, m. Ellen Omohundro

Omah - b. 30 Apr. 1898, m. Jim Risley

Lacey - b. 28 Dec. 1900, d. 26 July 1970, m. 1st Mary Hoffman, m. 2nd Maud Anglin

Hucie - b. 6 Feb. 1904, d. 11 Sept. 1912

Ella Mae Shannon, second child of William H. and Sarah (Drake) Shannon, was born 14 Dec. 1865 at Sherman, Texas, where they were living during the Civil War. She married Soloman Phillip 14 Dec. Their children:

Mamie - b. 28 Sept. 1881, m. J. B. Grimsley

John - b. 2 Apr. --, m. Ollie Gardiner

Carl - b. 28 Apr. 1888, m. Beulah Crisp

Wade - b. 30 June 1900, d. 18 May 1909

Willie - b. 30 June 1900, d. 18 May 1909

Thomas Henry Shannon, my father, third child of William H. and Sarah (Drake) Shannon, was born 25 Mar. 1870 at Cane Hill. He

married Eva Elizabeth Kidd, 3 Mar. 1894, daughter of William and Ellen E. (May) Kidd. Their children:

Ruth Ann - b. 14 Sept. 1895, m. William O. King

William Thomas - b. 19 May 1897, m. Mary Stewart

John Dewey - b. 27 Nov. 1898, m. Della Beatty

Wesley Franklin - b. 19 Feb. 1905, m. Maud Trammell

Homer James - b. 5 Dec. 1911, d. 13 Dec. 1944, m. Lillian Riley

Malcolm J. - b. 24 Sept. 1913, m. Lucile Howard

Sarah Lilly, fourth child of William H. and Sarah E. (Drake) Shannon was born 24 May 1874 at Cane Hill. She married Enoch Pharr in 1889. Their children:

Mary - b. 28 Apr. 1892, m. Grady Evins

Shannon - b. 1 Aug. 1896, d. 1 Dec. 1967, m. Hazel Fergerson

The years after the Civil War were hard to endure as the people had to start over with nothing and to make it worse yet, my father lost his father when only eight years old. My grandfather was hauling lumber for Mark Bean during the winter of 1877-1878, from over near Westville. On the way back he took sick and stopped at his brother-in-law's house, Mr. Wesley Drake, who lived about one mile west of Summers. He was put to bed where he died of pneumonia 26 Jan. 1878.

Later this house burned and was rebuilt, and at the same location my grandmother died several years later.

I would like to hear from the relatives of this Shannon or any other person or persons having information or pertinent facts of history concerning this line.

"The years are falling swiftly upon us, do not stop to count my friend, as you will surely miss 'The Passing Parade'."

December 28, 1970

- w c h s -

Marquerite Gilstrap, Washington, D. C. writes: "I thought of your Headquarters House when I visited the Longfellow Museum in Cambridge last summer. My congratulations on the FLASHBACK. I am subscribing for my sister-in-law, the former Verda Anderson, who looks like her grandmother, Nancy Jane Stewart Anderson. Best for '71."

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# TEBBETTS FAMILY HISTORY

by Marian Tebbetts Banes

(Editor's Note: This portion of Mrs. Banes' history deals with the battle of Fayetteville; the arrest and imprisonment of Judge Jonas Tebbetts, and the family's flight from Fayetteville safe within the ranks of the Federal army.)

After the barren victory of Wilson's Creek battle, during the winter of 1861-1862, the town lived between two armies, General McCulloch having drawn with his army to Boston Mountain, south of Fayetteville, General Price remaining in southwestern Missouri, with the Federal Army pressing, threatening.

Finally in February in answer to Price's insistent call, McCulloch who had drawn in troops from numerous southern posts, decided to go up and give relief and they formed a junction at Cross Hollow, a point of strong, natural defense. However, not feeling strong enough to hold the stand, the decision was to fall back to Boston Mountain, taking Price and his army with him, ostensibly to draw the Federal Army from its base of supplies. It was called a strategic move but they came "not in the order of their going," but each man apparently trying to get there first. The Federal Scouts were pressing them and they were in a hurry.

During the retreat, for it amounted to a retreat, with the Missouri troops heartbroken over leaving their native state in spite of its being a strategic move, McCulloch ordered everything destroyed that might be of use to the Union Army. Gen'l Price tried to reason with him, saying that he was in a friendly country, but McCulloch was in Command and McCulloch knew no restraint.

The town was set on fire in a dozen different places. The Overland Stables made a wonderful blaze. The big flour mill, over east of town was owned by Father and Stirman and Dixon, and was the only steam mill in that part of the country. Father begged of the officers that they remove machinery sufficient to insure it against use as a mill, but no heed was given his request and the great and useful building burned.

Much of the ammunition had been removed from the Female Institute that had been converted into an arsenal, but enough remained to give a lively bombardment. Being just across the street from our place, the pieces of bursting shells kept everyone under roof protection except Hale and Harris, who dodged from chimney to chimney with buckets of water to extinguish firebrands that fell thick and fast on the shingles.

One of the pillars of the portico was knocked out of place, but owing to Hale's and Harris' efforts, no further harm was done.

The quartermaster's stores! Never can one who has experienced it smell burnt meat without recalling the dense smoke and sickening odors that surrounded the town for days and days, as that immense stock of valuable beef and bacon smouldered and was consumed. At times the smoke was so dense that it seemed like a great black cloud over the town.

It must have been McCulloch's intention to entirely obliterate that beautiful village but a mightier hand than his guided the flames, which went straight up "to the blue." Hardly a house except those set on fire, burned.

In the meantime, President Lincoln had appointed Father "Direct Tax Commissioner of Arkansas," a difficult, indeed an impossible position that he made no effort to assume. Because of irregular mails, he learned of the appointment when the southern papers attacked him for being a Yankee and a Union man. They must have gotten the news from some northern paper that had drifted in.

That appointment made it all the harder for him. His property consisted of two large plantations on the Arkansas River, valuable timber lands, his home at Fayetteville and minor possessions. All this was confiscated, burned, the land denuded of trees, and every available thing of value taken off or rather made use of by the Army in some way.

One morning the town awoke to find all the soldiers gone--gone also were the fire-eating, most violent rebels. An ominous quiet brooded over all. An intense quiet, at times, is almost as alarming as a terrible noise. Something unusual was imminent. What was it?

During all this time there had never been a Federal soldier in town. Black Dutch they were called because of Siegel's and other German troops among them--ready to eat children alive. In spite of all said and done by their fathers and mothers, children were just a bit afraid to think of those fierce, children-eating Black Dutch in the dark.

The next morning, early, Betty came to arouse the family. Something unusual was happening on the hill or rise of ground to the north--the northern edge of town. Our four acres jutted on the big McGarrah corn field, just north.

All the family collected in the yard to watch. Sometimes there was a flash of light as if the sun shining on metal, then a horse came into sight--a bit of blue. One had not long to wait. Down the hill, down the old Overland road, a line of blue began to form, and then happened a most thrilling thing, a most bewildering thing --a military charge in active war. Like a child's stack of blocks the stake-and-rider fence around the corn field fell to the ground and a line of battle was formed directly back of our house.

The family stood and watched. Father was not afraid, and Mother seemed not afraid, so we children were not afraid, but oh! how wonderful it was! How awe-inspiring, even without full comprehension of its meaning. But who could be afraid of those beautiful blue soldiers on such fat, well-conditioned horses, so different from the lean scraggy animals that had been with the other army. Where were the children-eating Black Dutch?

Meeting no resistance, the charge into town was resumed and a light skirmish took place there. Someone, it was never known who, told General Asboth, for it was General Asboth who had dashed into town seeking the whereabouts of General Price and General McCulloch

who had just devastated the town. Someone told General Asboth that the community flag which, in happier days, had so proudly floated over the town was in Mother's possession. In a short time, an officer appeared at the door and courteously requested the flag, which she willingly but with apprehension gave up, never suspecting, though, the consequences.

She loved the flag, but it had been a matter of some concern. At one time it had been hidden between the mattresses of the bed in the guest room, but when a sick Confederate officer was brought in and put in that bed and his wife sent for, Mother had to assume considerable irritation and scolding for Betty (who understood) for not properly arranging the bed, to get it removed. At the time of General Asboth's coming it was safe in a dark spot in the attic.

In a short time after the coming of the officer for the flag, it was flung to the breeze of the Ozarks, and of those who loved it, some cheered and some wept.

At the back of the house in an angle formed by the ell of the house was a little porch. The red haw hedge to shut off the back premises began at that point and had grown high from neglect. I was standing on the little porch, wondering at a terrible clattering noise, did not have long to wait to find out, for over the hedge came General Asboth and staff, followed by a dog as big as a lion, trampling flowers and shrubbery and looking for whatever could be seen.

Now that was a sight! One to be remembered--all those booted and spurred men on horseback and that enormous dog (York by name) taking that hedge as if it were a plot of grass, trampling sacred flowers and shrubbery, then on down through the grove, through the garden, through the stable-lot and on out again. Between indignation, fright and surprise, I ran to tell Mother, only to hear her say, "That is part of war."

General Asboth made his headquarters at our house, and again there were soldiers and soldiers, but what a difference! That great kindly Hungarian, booted to the thighs, and his staff similarly booted, were everywhere in the house, with a click of spur and rattle of saber; getting information from Father, petting the children, trying to help Betty set the long table, sending in sugar and coffee and salt, the things most needed in our depleted larder; the General begging permission to bring York--his great Dane--to table with him, and with which he shared dainties.

It was a time of confused importance that is worth remembering, especially Mother's consternation when her one treasured glass of jelly, brought out for the meat course at dinner, was adopted and entirely consumed by General Asboth.

For a few days the Federal troops remained in town; then, being only a scouting division, much to the dismay and regret of the Union inhabitants, they returned to the Federal Army, lying a few miles north, taking them information that the southern army had fled to Boston Mountain, and evidently was not ready to give battle.

Before leaving, an effort was made by some officers to pay Mother for board during their stay, which was emphatically refused, but after they were all gone, Lillian was found playing "with some pretty pictures the nice man" had given her, which proved to be crisp greenbacks of generous denominations.

As the first greenbacks were issued early in February, 1862 and this was the last of the month, that first issue must have been used to pay the army.

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During that little skirmish, a few rebels were killed and some wounded. These had been deserted by their comrades and, seemingly, by their political friends in town as well. One, a poor fellow wounded through the bowels, was found in a deserted building. Someone had put a cup and pitcher of water beside his cot and left him to die alone. Father had the man brought up to our house, for he knew no politics in time of suffering and distress, and everything possible was done to alleviate the man's condition. A competent nurse was hired to give his entire time and attention to the patient. Though this terrible sufferer begged his physician and nurse to end it all for him, he lingered for days and days, Mortification set in and, in a way, relieved his sufferings, but the terrible stench from this pervaded the neighborhood. There was no getting away from it. The man caring for the poor creature at times was overcome, and rushed to a little porch at the side of the room for fresh air. Cotton rags and coffee were burned and permitted to smolder as deodorants, or rather to create an odor more endurable than the one ever-present. That was long before this opulent age of useful sickroom and hospital aids, besides it was in a depleted country.

The odor of the burning of those articles even now brings to my mind that time of distress and dismay, when the brave mother was doubling and redoubling the nurse's wages and adding her prayers to those of the dying man for his liberation. For she was again without Father's aid and comfort.

It was while this man was dying--a few days after General Asboth left, that two southern soldiers leading an extra horse, rode up to the door and arrested Father and took him off in the direction of an encampment of the southern army on Boston Mountain, about twelve miles south of Fayetteville.

This arrest was made at about four o'clock in the afternoon. On reaching headquarters, they met several officers from Arkansas troops, old friends, who offered to go to McCulloch and secure his release, but McCulloch refused to receive them, sending word to "Keep the damned scoundrel under double guard, safe for hanging."

It was late in February; the night was bitter cold on the Mountain and no provisions were made for his comfort, and bayonets were ever before his eyes. But as the sleepless hours passed, he had time for reflection, and he thanked God that should the worst

overtake him, he would leave to his children the heritage of truth and loyalty. He thought that his incarceration, or even his probable execution, might, in time, be a matter of painful pride to those who loved him. (From notes left by J. M. Tebbetts.)

When the slow morning came and he was called before McCulloch, he went undaunted and he entered the General's presence with his head up and the light of a martyr in his eyes.

He was greeted by McCulloch's usual unpolished profanity: "So you are here, damn you. I am told you are not a southern man. Where were you born?"

On receiving the answer "New Hampshire," he continued, "A damned Yankee. I thought so. And you stand there with the effrontery not to be ashamed of it. Why didn't you stay where you belonged? Why did you come down here, polluting this fair land?" And so on.

On being asked by the prisoner what were the charges against him, the answer was, "To begin with you are a damned Yankee. You did not leave Fayetteville when the southern army evacuated it. You have been making speeches in the Legislature for years against the South. You refused to take Confederate money; you entertained General Asboth; you presented him with a United States flag and, if that is not enough, you are a damned traitor to the South and you might as well prepare for the worst." (William Baxter, in his little book "Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove" has used the same notes of this time that I have. We have probably used the same words, but they come from Father's notes.)

After further profane abuse and after saying that he was preparing for a move on the enemy but he would do everything possible to have him hanged after the battle was over, the prisoner, looking him straight in the eye, said, "General McCulloch, do your worst."

A Confederate officer, a warm personal friend of Father's, who was present during the meeting, said that McCulloch was so nervous and irritable that he did not see why the prisoner was not shot then and there. Probably the General recognized that the prisoner was of too much importance to treat summarily.

In a few moments after Father's arrest, a squad of Union soldiers dashed up to the Tebbetts' door--a Federal scouting party--which, on hearing of the arrest, though their horses were jaded, wanted to follow and if possible bring him back, but Mother fearing a clash, begged them not to go for fear Father might be wounded in a possible encounter. So they did not follow but reported the arrest to General Curtis, who at once sent a note under flag of truce to General McCulloch, saying that he was holding several Confederate officers, and naming them, as retaliatory measure against any harm that might be offered Judge Tebbetts. But this neither Mother nor Father knew, and things looked pretty dark as he was sent south where he was imprisoned at Fort Smith.

What of Mother during this time? Staunch, true and sensible and not afraid. Tall and slender and fair, her abundant dark hair a

crown of glory and her dark eyes so soft and gentle surprised one with the flash of anger and indignation of which they were capable. She had a peculiar quality of reserve force, a strength of character that carried her successfully through many an hour of peril and humiliation, and a repose of manner that comes of gentle breeding. Her hands were so full of a gentle, magnetic quality that her children longed for their touch in after years, in many a moment of pain and mental distress.

"O, for the touch of a vanished hand."

In 1857 (?) Father and Mother had built what they called a "permanent home." The one the children called the "new house." It was well furnished with thick, soft carpets, and beautiful draperies. A few days after Father's arrest a squad of Confederate soldiers rode up to the house and demanded the carpets, bedding and draperies for the southern army. Without argument, with no hesitation and no expression of feeling, save the flash of her wonderful eyes, she had all the beautiful draperies taken down, dusted and folded, the carpets carefully rolled and the blankets gathered up from all the different rooms and delivered to the men without a word of reproach nor as if bending to a compulsory order. One who was present at the time said that her manner was so superb that it seemed to have shamed the man in command, to the extent that he left some blankets and declared the parlor carpet too heavy for horse blankets and the draperies too light. The children were indignant at bare floors, but she said, "<u>This is war</u>."

When General Van Dorn came into command he wanted her carriage, for which he paid a paltry sum of Confederate money that would not have paid for the front wheels, but she made no complaint. One might say she was compelled to comply with his request. True, but there are several ways of doing a painful and necessary thing.

She had inherited several salves from her Grandfather Buckner, but "Aunt Amy" had died, and they had let Tom go to California when Father sent a drove of cattle to that distant state, with the understanding that he need not return unless he wanted to. In other words, he was given his freedom and enough money to keep him until he found work.

They did the best they could for Tom, but the poor fellow was separated from his family, from all his friends and associates. His wife had been inherited by Mother's sister, so, in time Tom returned to Arkansas and deliberately gave himself up to the owners of his wife and children and again became a slave and died a slave.

So, of the three inherited slaves only little Harris was left, a grown man by that time. Also, they had bought Betty and hired such other as they needed. But most of the negroes had been sent south to insure them from running off with some of the Federal scouting parties, so Harris and Betty were all the servants about the place. Betty's husband, John Dixon--the one who told the Sunday morning stories to us children--had been shipped south with Mr. Dixon's effects.

It is difficult for one of the present time or one outside the environment of old slave conditions to realize the relationship existing between the well cared for slave and his owners. Mother trusted Betty and Harris, not only with her worldly goods, but with the most sacred secrets growing out of the political troubles of the time. She sent Harris to Father at Fort Smith, ostensibly to act as body servant, such a privilege being granted a "gentleman political prisoner," but really to take news that she dared not write, for the letter she sent by him was a perfunctory one of affection and home news. This big, black boy went loaded down with the news that a strange message had in some way come through the lines to Mother that the Federal authorities were watching Father's case, that word had been sent to southern officers that his life was worth the lives of several Confederate officers held as prisoners of war. Also, Harris, when on the street, stood about looking stupid and unconcerned, but he managed to listen in on several conversations which, on being reported to Father, convinced him that public opinion was changing in his favor.

As for Betty: One night she came to Mother excited and whispering, "Miss Mat, John's here."

"You must be crazy, Betty," said Mother, "John must be in Texas by this time."

"No, he ain't, Miss Mat. I got him under the bed in the guest room."

Sure enough, there was John under the bed, eating starvedly of the kitchen stores Betty had brought him. He had slipped away from the Dixon wagons and made his way back, through brush and bramble, fording streams, sleeping by day, traveling by night until he felt safe under the bed in Miss Mat's guest chamber.

This was a dangerous situation, hiding and abetting a runaway, but, nothing daunted, Mother found a cubby-hole under the garret roof where she had made him comfortable and where you may be sure Betty kept him well supplied with food and drink.

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A few days after Father's arrest, the army on Boston Mountain was on the move again. President Davis had never liked McCulloch and the friction between him and General Price caused the appointment of General Van Dorn, an officer of superior rank to both generals, in charge of the army. The guns of greeting when he came were heard for miles, reverberating through the mountains, and soon the army was on the march again, on its way to meet the Federal Army waiting up along the Missouri line.

The Tebbetts four acres were on what is now College Street and LaFayette Avenue, thus giving the place two highways, one on the west, the old Overland route, the other to the front that turned about a square away in a graceful downhill curve into a road leading to the north. Across town, somewhere near where the University now is, was another road leading to the north.

On the 3rd and 4th of March, night and day, was heard that great stream of humanity going by slowly, surely, arrogantly, certain of success. General McCulloch's division, General Price's Missourians, General McIntosh's Texas Rangers, General Albert Pike's Indian troops were starting back over the road on which they had made that strategic move from Cross Hollows so recently--three streams going night and day to retrieve Missouri from the Yankees.

The brave mother with her four children, two faithful servants, and the hidden runaway negro in the garret, spent many a restless moment. She did not take off her clothes at night and we children were put to bed half-clothed and instructed what to do in the case of sudden alarm. A strong canvas belt, filled with $50 gold pieces, never left her waist, and she knew where the most important papers were in case of fire.

It must be said, though, that the family was not molested save by the terrible wear and tear incident upon the presence of a great concourse of men, undisciplined and irresponsible. Everything about the place, food, wood, fences, whatever of value, was carried off. Even the pet rooster, big "Shanghai Pinkie" that had begun his life in Lillian's apron pocket and had learned to lay his head on Mother's other arm as she rocked baby Annie to sleep, had no doubt served his part in feeding the southern army.

During that time, the passing of that army, the beloved Arkansas College, that had escaped the general firing of the town, was burned.

The quiet that followed their passing was almost unendurable suspense, wondering. All kinds of emotions, fear, hate, strife, heart-bleeding, every human sensibility was aroused in those who waited, just waited with intaken breaths, until from twenty miles away came the muffled boom of artillery. A dull, deadly boom--m, boom--m, that died away in an answering echo, that moaned and sobbed as it disintegrated. Sometimes there was a clattering, indescribable sound that might have been musketry. Anyway, Fred Zellner, our music teacher, listened and heard in it the motif of a march which he wrote, while the battle was on, built on the refrain of martial sounds that drifted in. The unfinished sheets are lying in the old chest now.

People listened with strained ears, and marveled and wept. All day the terrible detonation with its sobbing echo drifted in and people stood with faces to the north, seeing nothing, but waiting, just waiting, for that endless boom, boom.

Finally the next morning a hard-riding man came, his horse trembling from exhaustion. The rider had a good excuse. Drisdall's--the drummer boy's--leg had been torn off. He thought his father should know. The Feds were being whipped, would soon be on the run. He thought the boy should be taken care of.

And another wild-eyed hard rider came, his horse wide-kneed and covered with sweat. He, too, had a good excuse for leaving this battlefield. He thought a widow he knew should know her son who had been taken prisoner would soon be released. The Yankees were

being terribly whipped. Others came, all with good excuses, and still bringing news that the northern troops were on the run, badly beaten.

Then came a closed carriage in which it was reported there was a wounded officer being taken to Fort Smith. The wounded officer proved to be the cold, stark body of General Ben McCulloch, the victim of a northern sharpshooter.

This was followed by a wagon containing the body of General James McIntosh, killed, it is supposed, by the same sharpshooter, Peter Pelican. Other high-up officials were reported slain--Black and Reives, and many others. No officers were left to command their division but General Albert Pike who seemed dazed and wholly incompetent for such a position, while his Indian troops were busy scalping the dead and wounded and plundering their helpless bodies.

The comers from the battlefield grew in number. They ceased to give reasons for coming and soon the route of a defeated army was on the town.

There are no words to tell of the dissolution of those men, hungry, sick, wounded, disillusioned, desperate.

Mother had Harris take tubs of water to the gate, where we children handed it out by gourd and cupsful which the men drank greedily, some lying down by the tubs as if the acme of desire had been reached.

All day Mother and Betty stood by the stove cooking corn bread, corn meal and water, glad to have a little salt to mix in, mind you, baked on griddles on top of the stove. There was nothing else to give, not even lard or drippings to lighten the bread, but those starved men ate it as a delectable morsel.

For days that stream of suffering humanity flowed by, without arms, blankets, many without hats, everything being thrown away that impeded flight; and strange sights were seen. A grim, white haired man on horseback, holding a gray blanketed figure in the saddle in front of him, its two stark legs protruding either side, sent us children to the house to tell Mother, who explained that someone was taking a loved one home.

The place was overrun. Exhausted men fell within the line of the fence, thankful for a corner in which to lie and not be trampled. The porches were covered. All night could be heard their groans and curses and prayers.

But this great retreat could not last forever. In time the town settled down to quiet, sullen and angry. The southern sympathizers who could get away were gone. Those who could not get away were resentful. The town had been burned, denuded, sacked by contending armies, and it was hungry. Even the well-to-do were in need of the bare necessities of life, salt and sugar and coffee. One never threw away her coffee grounds. There was always someone waiting to boil them over again.

History of that time tells of the desperate struggle of that decisive battle--the terrible carnage and the determined onslaughts from both sides during those three terrible days--at times neither side knowing which was getting whipped.

A history from a southern standpoint says: "It was a decisive engagement and the Federals were driven back at every point;" and General Van Dorn in his report to the Confederate War office made the naive statement, "I was not defeated, but only foiled in my intentions."

It is noticeable, however, that the Federals held the ground on which they fought and the Confederates made that terrible retreat to the Ozarks. Neither was further effort made from that point to force Missouri into the Confederacy, and both Van Dorn and Price with their commands were ordered across the Mississippi River.

The writer of this memoir, as a child, saw that retreat--no leisurely falling back--just the devastating, heart-breaking rout of a defeated army.

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In the meantime, Father was at Fort Smith, awaiting trial. The bullet that had ended General McCulloch's life had passed entirely through his body, and it was shown by a friendly officer to Father, and as he held it in his hand, he pondered over what the difference might have been, had the letter he was then writing, asking that a trial be granted him, been written to General McCulloch instead of General Van Dorn.

The request for a trial was granted and took place before the general advocate of General Price's army.

In the meantime, the public sentiment had changed in his favor. What had he done? Nothing but be true to the Union. One friend, Joseph Davis of Howard County, Missouri, who was then in Texas to which, with other ardent secessionists, he had fled with his family and slaves, on hearing of the news of the arrest that had been broadcast, rode day and night, fording swollen streams and undergoing many hard hips to reach his friend, General Price, and claim his influence in the prisoner's behalf.

Old-time friends, both men and women, sent Father words of comfort, flowers and dainty tidbits to eat. In the old chest, too, are many kind notes of sympathy, for no one knew of any crime he had committed against the Confederacy, but be true to the Union.

An official copy of the charges and the names of those who made them are, also, in the old chest:

"Charges: Treasonable and seditious conduct.

"Specification 1st: In this, that he, Jonas M. Tebbetts did have in his possession a United States flag and did furnish or cause to be furnished to the Federal Army and hoisted on the flag staff at Fayetteville, the said flag.

"2nd: In this that the said Jonas M. Tebbetts did remain in Fayetteville after the town had been evacuated and did offer comfort and support to the enemy.

"3rd: In this that Jonas M. Tebbetts refused to receive Confederate money and did make seditious remarks with reference to same.

"All of this on or about the latter part of February, 1862

Witnesses to prosecution.
Red Owens, Col. McRae's Regt.
W. D. Reagan, Fayetteville, Ark.
Artemus Crawford, Fayetteville, Ark.
G. W. Meyers, Fort Smith, Ark.

Respectfully submitted,

G. L. Lomax,
F. Marshal."

Then followed much of the testimony. There was no question as to his being a Union man, no one arose to substantiate the seditious remarks, and the refusal to receive Confederate money was disproved. When it came to the matter of the flag, General Sevier, the Judge Advocate, said: "As for the flag, I think there is one about my home now, and I used to think it was a pretty good flag. That's all right."

Probably the note by flag of truce that had been sent to General McCulloch by General Curtis had something to do with it, but to the glorious surprise of his family, one day Father came home.

There were those who were angered at his release from prison, and others, those who loved him in spite of political differences, were uneasy. One, a lady of strong southern sympathies, an old schoolmate of Mother's, grew suspicious of several men. She made no excuse for contriving to listen in on a whispered conversation one night when she learned that arrangements were being made to hang Father the following night.

The next morning with her workbasket in hand, she sauntered into Mother's sitting room, ostensibly bent on an hour or so of friendly chat and gossip. When they were alone and she told Mother the object of her visit, there was no outburst of grief, no tears, no excitement. Mother was not built that way; besides, the time and danger she had encountered had only strengthened and solidified the really fine points of her character.

As quietly, and apparently as unconcerned as her friend had come into her room, she walked into the library adjoining where Father sat reading and told him the news.

He assured himself that the canvas belt filled with $50.00 gold pieces that burdened her slender waist in time of danger was intact, turned over to her a lot of Confederate money the government had paid him for some timber cut on one of his farms before it had

been confiscated, directed what to do with his most important papers, and said, "There is no way out of it, Mat. I will have to leave you and the children in the hands of God."

His old saddle horse "Bill Whip" was in the stable after he and "Laplander" (a close relation of the great race horse Laplander) had returned after having been stolen. One morning they were found with their heads hanging over the gate, ropes around their necks which had either been broken or cut. Though Bill Whip was in the stable, Father did not order him for he saw at the door a young cousin of Mother's, an officer home on Sick leave.. Entering the room where he and the lady were, he said, "Mind if I use your horse to go out and see how the men are getting on cutting the wood, Clay?"

That Mother's friend and Clay were on hand at that auspicious moment caused no comment. No question was asked, no answer given, but from that time on, Clay rode Laplander.

Walking out toward the gate, Father called back something about some flower blooming, stopped to fix something about the saddle, spoke to a passerby, sprang on the horse in the light, debonair way that was his, turned for a few remarks, lifted his hat and quietly rode out toward his woodland, which was also toward the Union army, then lying a few miles north of Fayetteville. Riding quietly until out of town, he put spurs to the horse and soon was within the arms of the Federal Army.

Thus the ambitions and accumulations of years were abandoned. There at Fayetteville he was married, there his children were born, there in 1853 he had built a beautiful home. It has been recently seen by the writer, the first time since the fall of 1862. It was feared that childish recollections of it were greater than its actual beauty. But no, it is still beautiful, its pure one-story colonial lines unmarred by the present owner who graciously let the writer go through the house. Modern conveniences and additions have been made at the back but not one line of its eighty-foot front has been changed. The four-acre lot with the grove, the play place, is gone, but the house still sits in a large lot, the great trees around that Father had planted, for there were no trees there, but in the grove. The coffin-shaped front door, with its diamond-shaped glass is still intact and the house is painted white with green shutters, and there is a treasured bullet hole in the back door.

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After the battle of Pea Ridge, Fayetteville settled down to a period of apathetic discomfort and discontent, always apprehensive of disaster, never certain under which flag it existed, that depending on which scouting party held the town. Sometimes under no flag at all, at which time friend and foe met with conciliatory greetings. There were frequent clashes between contending scouting parties and the country was overrun by bushwhackers and other lawless men, and terrible things happened.

The slow months crawled by. Father did get occasional letters to his family by Federal scouting parties and he sent some necessary things--thread and needles and pins--on one occasion, among other things, a pair of button-hole scissors that are now in the writer's workbasket as they always were in Mother's. They have been in use seventy-seven or eighty years and are still in good condition.

When Father reached the Federal army, he reported at once to headquarters and became, as one might call it, an unofficial advisor on the General's staff. His thorough acquaintance with the political conditions in Arkansas, and his personal knowledge of the people of the northwestern part of the state were invaluable. Many a poor prisoner was released on his recommendation, many who were cocksure of being able to bluff by protestations of fealty to the government, by a word from him, were more carefully guarded.

Quoting from his notes of that time: "Springfield, Mo. Here I found twenty or thirty young Confederates from the northern part of Arkansas, several from Fayetteville. Learning that I was in town, they sent for me to beg me to intercede with General Brown for their release. I cheerfully complied with their request as they were all very young men and had seen no service in the Confederate Army. General Brown granted their release on the condition of their taking the oath of allegiance to the United States. After much discussion among themselves, they finally agreed to take the required oath and go to war no more, both of which--the oath and the promise--were promptly broken as soon as circumstance permitted. They were destitute of money and I distributed $700.00 among them, Confederate money."

Soon after war was declared between the states, requisition was made by the Confederate Government for the use of Father's Frog Bayou plantation on the Arkansas River down below Van Buren, its position and great forest plantation making it desirable for winter quarters for the southern army then arming. At that time, having no idea of the duration of the war, and hoping to keep sort of a protective eye over this pet piece of property, Father gained the contract of putting the place in order for an army. Saw mills, carpenters, and other necessary workmen were employed, and in a short time stables, barns, barracks and all other equipment for an army were ready, for which Father was paid liberally in Confederate money. That is how he happened to have several hundred dollars to divide between those boys--some of whom were from Fayetteville--one a son of David Walker. Later on, the Frog Bayou farm and all other property was confiscated by the Confederacy.

Father went on to St. Louis and reported to General Curtis who, because of his success, had been promoted to Major General in command of the army of the Southwest, General Schofield having been elevated to the command of the army.

The slow months passed somehow. Mother was always taking care of a wounded Confederate soldier or two. Most of the families in town were doing the same, for the southern scouting parties left their dead and dying. There were, no doubt, wounded and dead Federal soldiers, also, but the town was never called upon to care for them.

Mother and her four children, and Betty and Harris, existed in some way. John Dixon, the hidden runaway slave, had escaped with one of the Union scouting parties.

Along in October, news came that General Schofield with an army of 30,000 was advancing on Fayetteville with the intention of making that point the headquarters of the Union army.

One morning we awoke to find the place under heavy guard. Soldiers stood at each door, at different points on the premises, the garden, the orchard, the stable, the play ground, with its swings and other childish devices for amusement. A soldier seemed guarding every small remnant of what had once been an ample home, and Mother was told no one could enter the premises without her permission, by orders of the Commander of the Federal Army.

The advance guard of the army was there and soldiers were coming from every quarter, 30,000 of them, that gave the same old sounds or army life that all had become so accustomed to.

During the morning General Schofield called on Mother, bringing news of Father who was at the headquarters of General Curtis at St. Louis, and offering anything of the army stores that might be to her comfort, or the comfort of her family.

Again in a few days, he called. This time telling her what he said he had not then communicated to his staff, of the necessity of falling back to a point nearer the northern base of supplies. The desolation of the country about Fayetteville, the paucity of forage, making it impossible to sustain an army of any size. He said they would begin moving next morning, and that she and her family must go with them. At her demur, he insisted that she must go, that it would not be safe for her to stay.

He sent packing boxes and all the help she needed, and thus began the painful duty of breaking up a dearly beloved home.

That night Father came down under heavy guard. Quoting from his notes: "In a few days I left Springfield for St. Louis, where I was kindly received by General Curtis. I remained in St. Louis until November when I was sent with dispatches for General Schofield who was then quartered at Fayetteville. On the third day from St. Louis, I reached my destination at nine o'clock at night. I rode right by the home and family I had not seen for five months, hastened to headquarters and delivered the dispatches. Here I was informed by General Schofield that my wife and family were well, as the General had dined with Mrs. Tebbetts that afternoon and had revealed to her his plan for the immediate future, which not even his staff officers knew, id est, that the army would fall back toward Missouri the next morning, and she and her little brood must go along with the army. The town was full of soldiers, 30,000 being encamped in the immediate vicinity. I had to have a guard to conduct me home, where I found another guard protecting my home and fireside from the depredations of that vast horde of men. Thus does our country protect her own.

"I occupied most of the night in packing valuable papers, and a few articles of special value.

"The next morning Generals Schofield, Herron and Totten, while the army of 30,000 men waited, made and packed a box with household goods from that one loyal home. Thus, again, does our great country serve her own.

"About ten o'clock the family piled into an army ambulance and started with the army, north. Mrs. Robert Graham and her children also joined the grand cavalcade, her husband having gone north months before."

The night before leaving, little Anna, the youngest of the four children became very ill, but General Schofield insisted it was not safe for them to remain, so early in the morning his ambulance was at the door, and the family bade forever its goodbye to their beautiful home in the Ozarks. On the right of the ambulance rode General Schofield. On the other side were General Totten and General Herron, while other officers brought up the rear. Hale rode his father's old saddle horse "Bill Whip" and he wore around his old battered hat a United States flag that is still in possession of his daughters.

That night was spent in General Schofield's headquarters at Elk Tavern, and the family remained with the army for several days so that Anna might rest under the care of the army surgeons. There were so many refugees that at night we were stretched on army blankets across the floor of one big room. One man complained that his neighbor crowded and finally it was thought he must be having a nightmare as he kicked and struggled so hard that it disturbed the sleep of those around him. Having been shaken and kicked into quietude, the restless man's neighbors fell into restful sleep and in the morning it was discovered that the supposed nightmare was really the death agony of one poor mortal, but those around him had found desired rest and sleep beside his dead body.

In a few days, we were sent with other refugees to Springfield, Missouri, under a heavy guard, where the Tebbetts and the Graham families were guests of their friend, General John Phelps. The heavy guard was necessary because the country was infested with bushwhackers.

After remaining several days in Springfield, the refugees started out again under even a heavier guard, for the danger from bushwhackers was greater, this time for Rolla, Mo. where a railroad had been rushed through to that great lead district, so a train could be taken for St. Louis.

After starting, our little Annie again became very ill. It was feared she might not live through the day, and to break the terrible jolting, Mother, Father, Betty, and a cousin who was traveling with us, were relieving each other in holding her in suspended arms, for the route was over corduroy roads.

There was no place to stop, no hotels, no roadhouses where one might seek relief from travel. It was a war-driven, desolate land and the favorite haunt of guerrillas, bushwhackers and desperate men generally. They had to go on. Besides they were but one of many refugee wagons.

In the great anxiety for Anna, our ambulance had fallen behind the others. The journey had lasted all day and the most dangerous part of the route had been reached, when Father realized that the wagon was far behind the guard. Then occurred a most thrilling incident. Realizing the danger, and the driver of the ambulance not acceding to his request to drive faster, Father took the lines from his hands and, standing half erect, whip in hand, he lashed those tired mules while the vehicle swayed from side to side, the children holding on for dear life; and Mary, the cousin, helping to support Mother while Betty kneeling stretcher her back across Mother's lap to support the arms holding the dying baby. Not a word was spoken, not a sound but the creaking of the ambulance and the lashing of mules, until someone whispered. "There's a light."

Then some of the troopers having missed one of the vehicles came anxiously back to find it and announced that Rolla was in sight.

Then dear Father and Mother relaxed and shed their tears over the dying child. But Annie did not die during that perilous trip. She lived to bless and glorify her home for twenty years after.

- w c h s -

William and Annie Laurie Horsfall, Urbana, Illinois, write: "You are doing a fine piece of work; William and I are pleased with the FLASHBACK. Enclosed is our order for our "Uncle Ed"--you may remember him." (Mrs. Boles was Huetta Vaulx.)

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Mrs. George (Burlene) Hilton, Lincoln, Arkansas, says: "Enclosed find our check for WCHS membership. Enjoy each number of FLASHBACK and look forward to getting it each quarter. (We have received the Antioch list and will also appreciate the other cemetery list and the Risley genealogy.)

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## A CORRECTION

Mrs. Hester A. Avery of Memphis, Tennessee writes: "May I suggest a correction on Page 31 of the August 1970 issue of FLASHBACK? No. 28 on the list of names should be Elijah POWELL instead of Dowell.

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# AN ANTE-BELLUM HOME

by Pat Donat

Washington County is singularly blessed with many ante-bellum homes still standing. Some are rapidly deteriorating while others, more fortunate, are still serving as homes. A few have even remained in the same family since they were erected. Such is the case of the Nathan Combs brick house beyond Combs Chapel southeast of Fayetteville.

The present occupants are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cantrell Combs. He is a great-nephew of the builder.

Nathan Combs came to Fayetteville from Breathitt Co., Kentucky when he was 23 years old. He began life here with $13 and became one of the wealthiest and most prosperous farmers in the county. This is the way Goodspeed describes it in his biographical sketch and is the way Robert Combs, also a great nephew, says it actually was.

He was ready to build the two story brick house before the Civil War but had to wait until that conflict was over.

The house has 18-inch solid brick walls and family tradition says the bricks were burned on the farm. Walnut trim was used throughout and the only changes during the years are modernization and blocking of the original fireplace in the kitchen.

Nathan moved to the farm in 1861, six years after he married Elizabeth Cline, a Tennessee native and daughter of George Cline, a captain in the War of 1812 who came to Arkansas in 1838 and who served two terms in the state legislature.

His farm was 757 acres in size with most of it rich bottom land. He had 450 acres under cultivation and an orchard with 1,500 fruit trees.

Goodspeed's history of the house builder, published in 1889, states, "He has a substantial and commodious two-story brick residence and has, for many years, devoted his time exclusively to farming and has achieved a decided success in that calling."

Nathan Combs was a builder of the community as well as a house. He provided for educational and religious opportunities as well as providing for the comfort of his own family.

His will, filed in the Washington County courthouse and probated Sept. 21, 1899 was written April 20, of the same year. Attestors were C. B. Paddock, M.D., an early day Fayetteville physician, and William P. Loulder. Bruce Holcomb was clerk for probate.

The will reads:

"I, Nathan Combs, do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

"I give and bequeath unto Mrs. Martha Roark the sum of $10 per month to be paid her as long as she lives

"Elizabeth Roark the sum of $500 to be paid her in installments of $75 a year

"I bequeath unto the Directors of School District No. 59 in Washington County and unto their successors the sum of $500 to be invested by them for the education of the children of said district the interest accruing therefrom to be used for said purchase but the principal in no event to be consumed.

"And I bequeath unto the circuit known as White River Circuit in said county the sum of $500 to be paid by my executors to the trustees of said circuit and to be invested as a permanent fund so as to yield an annual interest for the use of the circuit rider or minister in charge of said circuit and in no event shall the principal sum be consumed.

"I bequeath unto my three namesakes each one a house and lot

"To Nathan Edmiston the house and lot now occupied by his mother,

"To Nathan Combs I give the house and lot east from the steam mill in Combs addition to the city of Fayetteville and to

"Nathan Wilks I give the box house and adjoining lot on the east of said last mentioned lot

"and I give and bequeath the residue of my estate after my funeral expenses and just debts have all been paid to my beloved wife, Elizabeth Combs, and to my son, Isaac Combs, for and during their natural lives with remainder in fee to Isaac G. Combs if he should survive my said wife and in the event that said son, Isaac G. Combs should fail to have a child or children born to him and should die seized of any said property I desire and will that the same be divided equally between the sons of my three brothers, Alfred, Sewell and Isaac Combs.

"I hereby appoint Isaac G. Combs and Elizabeth Combs executors of this my last will and testament and I desire that they shall expend the sum of $1,500 of my estate in the purchase and erection of a monument to mark the resting place of the bodies of myself and my wife witness my hand on this 20 April 1899.

Nathan Combs

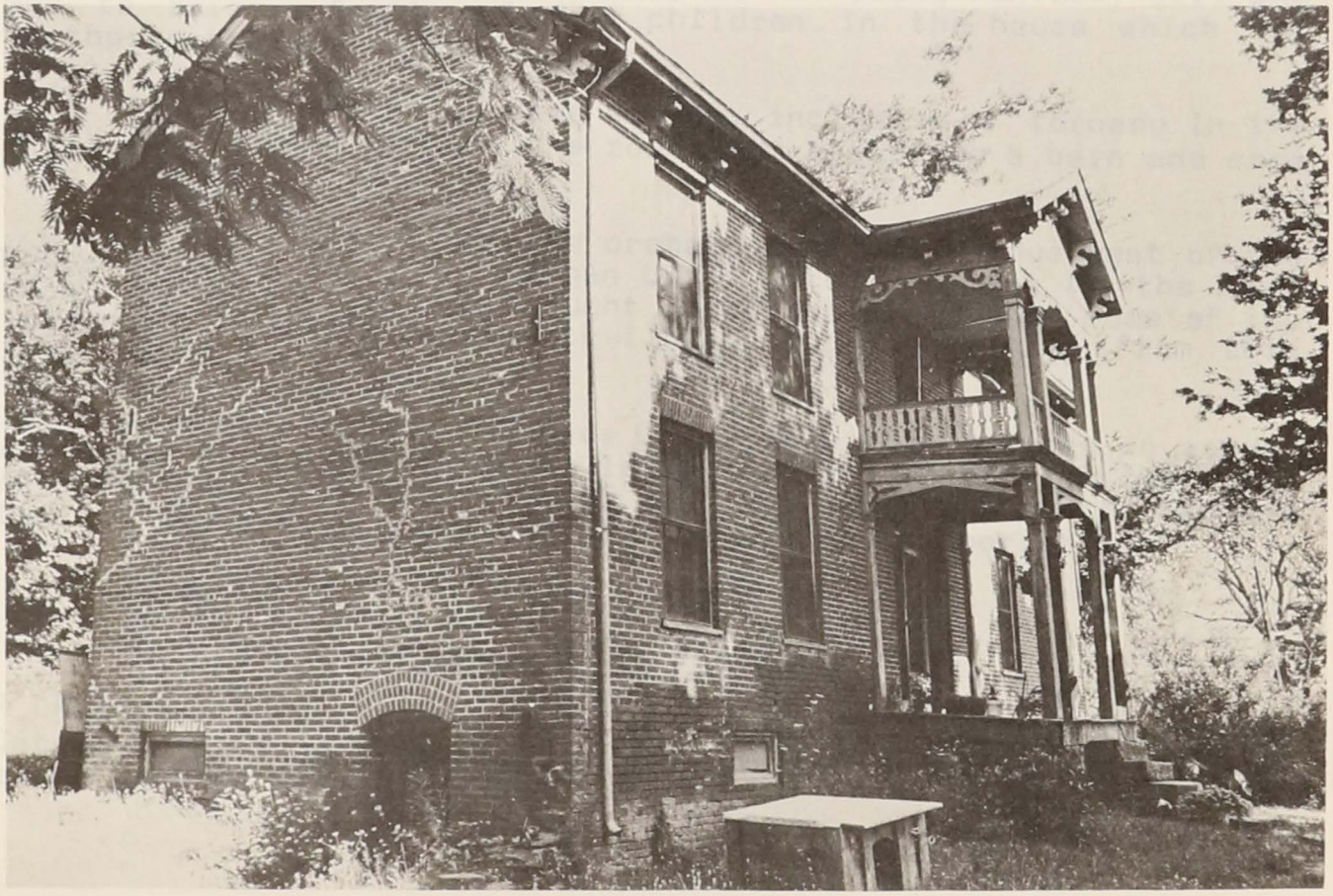
Attest: C. B. Paddock, M.D.
Wm. P. Moulder

Subscribed and sworn and filed for probate 21 Sept. 1899

Bruce Holcomb

Clerk for Probate"

Nathan Combs built the brick house at the close of the Civil War and the log building has been used as a barn for many years.



Nathan and Elizabeth are buried in Comb's Chapel Cemetery and their son, Isaac, erected the monument Nathan requested, but, according to Robert Combs again, spent double the amount stipulated.

Isaac who married Martha Cowen, daughter of Anthony and Georgianne (Hurt) Cowen, failed to have children and by the terms of Nathan's will the house and land went to the surviving sons of Nathan's brothers.

Isaac was born in Prairie Township, Washington County, on June 3, 1855 and was raised to manhood on his father's farm. After a common school education he took a three-year course at the Arkansas Industrial University, being among the first students to complete studies in that institution which this year is noting its centennial.

He spent four years teaching school and continued farming. His wife did not like living in the country and they spent most of their lives in Fayetteville where he had built a home on Mountain Street.

The present owner C. C. Combs and his wife, Elizabeth Thompson, moved to the house in 1923 and have lived there ever since. They made the move from Kentucky with their household goods in a freight car. Mrs. Combs recalls she was assured there was a great sufficiency of cupboards and closets in the house and did not bring some of her wardrobes, only to find a single cupboard in the kitchen.

This was only a minor difficulty to the young Kentucky girl who was to raise a family of four children in the house which has weathered the years.

It has also weathered some storms, including a tornado in the early 1920s which damaged the roof but destroyed a barn and some outbuildings.

Robert Combs said that the orchard was located due west of the house and the log cabin Nathan built after he went to the farm stood for many years. He thought it was possible that some of the logs used in the present outbuildings might have come from this first cabin.

Unlike many of the old houses in the area this one has an assured future and is not likely to leave the Combs family, as two sons, William Aaron and Frank Allen, and two daughters, Ruth Jean and Lucille Hayes have grown up with the house and cherish it.

- w c h s -

Coming Up In FLASHBACK

A CATE family history has been furnished the Society by Harold J. Cate. It will be prepared for publication at an early date. It dates back to 1776.

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# OLD CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

by Lloyd McConnell

In August, 1866 Judge Harrold opened a regular term of the Circuit court in Washington County, with George Cline, Samuel Mayes, James John, William Morton, James Dickinson, Lewis Collins, James Barnett, John Stills, John M. Dearing, William B. Parks, Leroy D. Stone, George D. Lewis, John C. Smith, John Johnson, William Eidson, James C. Gilland, J. B. Rainwater sitting on the Grand Jury.

Ambrose Parks, charged with a murder, filed bond signed by John S. Cluck, L. R. Parks, M. W. Parks, J. M. Denny, James T. Withrow, J. B. Proctor, Perry Trollinger, and David B. Gilland. Mr. Parks also petitioned the court to place his witnesses, many of whom were on his bond, under bond, guaranteeing their presence at his trial, and the Court so ordered. Perry Trollinger, Leroy Parks, Francis M. Parks, David B. Gilliland, Harriett Leers, James Hays, William Grimes, Francis M. Denny, James T. Withrow, David Carlock and Thomas Hays made Five Hundred Dollar bonds with the court.

John Trott, charged as an accessory before the fact to murder, petitioned the court for bond due to the lack of a jail. His bond was signed by Eleason B. Harrison, Isaac Taylor, James W. Stirman, Joseph H. McCamey and William B. Rollins. An intoxicated, irate or insane soldier had at one time set fire to the County jail, during or after the war.

Jacob Battenfield and Augustus Lewis, with Frank G. Watson operated a business under the trade name of Battenfield, Lewis & Company.

John Mock was involved in a controversy with Samuel Alberty. David Walker was Administrator of the estate of Jacob W. Walker, and maintained an action against George Lewis, Jr., for $300.00

Leisel Brixey, executor of the last will of John Brixey, deceased, received a judgment against James T. Sytton, Thomas ____ and Nelson Hewitt. David M. Moore and Frederick M. Kidd were administering the estate of Tandy K. Kidd as of August 11, 1866.

John D. Thomason, James B. Alberty, George W. Late, Stokeley D. Wilson, William Irvin, Wilburn D. Reagan and Sam McCulloch were named on the docket in civil actions then pending. Lucy J. Neal was administrator of the estate of the late William T. Neal.

Samuel E. Rogers, Lewis Cavin, James B. Appleby, Leonard Trammell, John Millsap, Jackson Dyer, George S. Trammell and George W. Drain were charged with a trespass. No information as to the nature of the charge was available but a judgment of $75.00 was rendered in the case.

The 1866 petit jury included Isaac Taylor, J. C. Hannah, Samuel A. Miller, Wilson Phillips, W. B. Strickler, John Blakeley, Isaac A. Copeland, John Cox, William H. Ladd, Jacob Yoes, Jasper Farmer and W. R. Barmwell.

The civil docket was heavy, with names of Wade H. Pollard, Joel A. Combs, Thomas R. Marquess, John Holcomb, James W. Carney, William H. Ladd, and Lafayette Brooks appearing thereon. Others involved in suits were J. D. Walker, A. K. Sawyer, Audley Skillern, John N. Bassett, William D. Reagan, James R. Pettigrew and George W. M. Reed.

Elizabeth Wax, John Little, Andrew J. Wilson, Elias Hutchens, William Strickler, John Oxford and Jackson Oxford were also litigants at this term.

M. S. Homesley was a Justice of the Peace for Brush Creek Township. P. R. Smith had succeeded George W. M. Reed as Clerk, and J. L. Carlisle, a Justice for many years, was succeeded by B. J. H. Gaines, who stated and signed that he was Justice of the Peace in possession of the books and papers of J. L. Carlisle, December 1866.

Elijah Davidson was Justice of the Peace for Prairie Township, and C. S. Hauptman wore a like title. Richard Mitchell served as the J. P. in Richland Township, in January, 1867.

J. B. Russell & Sons, Cane Hill merchants, filed a suit against Jesse Pyeatt and it was tried in the Justice Court of D. R. McCalib. John R. Davis was the Justice in Marrs Hill Township at Viney Grove.

William H. Rhea of the firm of Rhea and Cox filed an attachment against lands belonging to William S. Knight, about a mile east of Summers. Catherine Proctor was Administratrix of the estate of A. M. Proctor, deceased.

John Holcomb sued John Peerson. Robert W. Mecklin filed against Obediah Cate for a debt.

Washington County came up without a sheriff in February of 1867 and the Coroner notified a jury panel to report for duty. Sitting on the panel were Samuel Bard, David Hanna, Washington Larremore, Maston Gregg, Thomas McKnight, William W. Brownlee, David Carter, William H. Brooks, J. H. Rieff, William Hunt, John Kemp, Pleasant H. Vernon, Henry Gallaher, John Little, John Q. Benbrooks, Thomas J. Kelley, John A. Dinst, James Johnson, James Dickerson, Ezekiel Phillips and Audley Skillern. The Clerk spelled it SCHILLEN.

The name Hanna was prominent in Middle Fork of White River, and some who spelled it Hannah were located in the Hogeye section of the county.

Six cases of larceny and one robbery were on the docket. The names of some prominent citizens were mentioned. Riley Graham, Frank Rogers and John Churchwell were arrested for robbery. Hugh Morrow, Peter Mankins, and George Simpson were cleared of similar charges.

William Selvidge faced a charge of assault to kill. Young Bayard was indicted for murder.

The petit jury included Robert Eidson, W. A. Calfee, W. H. Williams, Job Fletcher, Charles Davenport, Martin Garrett, Alfred A. Davidson, L. D. Jarnagan, T. M. Roberts, William Marion, John Van Hoose and Eli F. Holt.

S. E. Rogers paid a One Thousand Dollar bond forfeit into court for the missing Irvin Gillenwater on a robbery charge. The court also directed Alfred Brashears and John M. Denny to make like contributions for the absent John D. Churchwell.

John Garrett pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder. Rebecca Reagor filed an attachment against property of Lafayette Boone. A Reagor operated a store at Boones Grove, earliest settlement a mile south of the site of present day Elkins.

Newton Givens, B. H. Pierson and Guilford Pyland (Pylant) were named on the civil docket. Samuel Marrs filed against John and Andrew Thurman. Evan W. McClelland and Ewing W. McClure were doing business as McClellan and McClure.

Irvin Gillenwater later made an appearance before the Court and Mr. Rogers recovered his $1000 forfeiture.

A jury was selected to try John Garrett for murder and the box seated William Flynn, W. C. Smith, James Fletcher, Nathan Thomas, Charles Henderson, Shadrick Ingram, T. J. Fellows, John L. Cavin. Mr. Garrett was found not guilty and advised to go hence without delay, fully acquitted of the indictment.

Ambrose Parks faced a jury of John Cabe, Job Fletcher, Benjamin Strickler, William B. Barclay, Albert A. Brodie, Alfred Davidson, Solomon N. Farley, John O. Parks, Adam J. Ballard, James A. Ferguson, Pleasant M. Cox and George W. Crisp, who declared him acquitted of the charge. He was also advised to go hence.

James H. Van Hoose and James Wilson failed to report for jury service and the Court issued an order to the sheriff to "bring them here." They were fined $5.00 for contempt of court.

Green Maguire, John B. Rainwater, Robert R. Williams, Newton B. Cummings and Isaac Taylor furnished bond for Young Bayard. Names of bondsmen often reflect the approximate location of a crime.

Matilda C. Yell administered an estate, and William Deaver was a defendant in a civil suit. Richard Cardwell received judgment for $568.00 against Spencer F. Fine.

On the petit jury panel also were Mark Cline, Meredith Magness, Abraham F. Son, John P. L. Parks, Samuel Evans, Lee Bishop, W. J. Jones, Robert Pleasant, John Lepps, L. Wears and B. F. Bose. The year was 1867.

David C. Smithson administered the estate of Bryan H. Smithson, in February, 1867; Mr. Smithson was well known in the county. Elm Springs resident B. R. Bingham was a Justice of the Peace. The case of William Brown vs. Joseph McConnell was tried in his court. A. W. Wasson was also a Justice in the Elm Springs area.

William Pearson asked the court to compel performance on a contract suit against William H. and Charles M. Combs, Robert M. and Nancy E. Combs, Thomas and Adeline Nance, John and Rebecca Loyd, Elisha M. and Ruth Ann Jennings.

Daniel B. Jobe was defendant in a suit for debt as was Jesse Mayberry. Attending court were William Blackburn, John and Henry G. Hartley.

A. B. Murphy succeeded P. P. Van Hoose as Common School Commissioner in June, 1867.

Judge William Storey of the 8th Judicial District of Arkansas held court in Washington County in August, 1867

Andrew S. Gregg, Robert J. West, John D. Thomason, David Moore, John Morrow, John Van Hoose, Ewing Benbrook, William I. Wilson and Noel G. Rutherford were among those who failed to report for jury service.

James Winn, Alexander Allison and James H. Wilson were excused, and were replaced by Ewing W. McClellan, Harry J. Hartley, George McClure and William S. Deaver.

The Sheriff called from the bystanders the names of Henry Cate, David Carter, James Dickerson, Porter Ownbey, John Still, Madison Sawyer, Zadok Winn, Eli F. Holt, and Robert Allison to serve as jurors.

A contempt charge against Wilson and Rutherford resulted in an order to the Sheriff to "bring them here." William and Caleb Martin were having fun at a church social and the grand jury looked sternly at their case. Meredith Lofton was also involved in the merry-making.

The name of Young Bayard was changed to Young Baird and he was discharged from the court without trial. John Garrett and John D. Churchwell were also released from robbery charges and ordered to go hence.

Irwin Gillenwater was acquitted without a trial, and John Trott was freed of his murder charge by a nolle proseque. William Selvidge was free on an assault to kill that was pending against him.

There were many murder trials scheduled. The writer has often wondered if they were the result of actions during the war period when night-riders, renegades, etc., were in evidence.

Daniel Frost was not fined for breaking the sabbath but John Reed was ordered to jail until his Ten Dollar fine was paid.

A number of criminal cases were postponed until the next term of court, and the defendants placed under bond.

Thomas Wilkinson and James Dunlap were charged with robbery and their jury included James McDowell, James Privitt, Thomas Carney,

William F. Jones, Francis Johnson, John B. Harrison, John Wilson, H. C. C. Botefuhr, Harry Keyser, William Taylor, Phillip Maguire, and Zebe Mays. Wilkinson was set free.

Howard West received a nolle proseque for a killing. Benjamin Woodruff was free on a similar charge.

Abner Davidson, Elizabeth A. Brown, Samuel Vernon, William Hamby and William H. Engels were involved in civil matters, as were Alfred Davidson, Commodore P. Baker, Frank Kenzie, John Lips, and Franc and Matilda Glenn.

A jury composed of A. J. McRoy, John Reiff, Robert Hodge, F. M. Boyd, Carroll Tollett, Washington Wills, John A. Pearson, William Oxford, Samuel Miller, G. M. Elms, Henry Gallaher and W. H. Cardwell fined Thomas Bigby $150 for a high misdemeanor.

Other petit jurors were E. B. Harrison, John Q. Benbrook, Jacob Cunningham, Meredith Magness, Samuel Bard, John Cox, Thomas Hunt, M. E. Edmiston, Thomas Edmiston, T. F. Edmiston, William Cavin and William York.

Allen Funkhouser was the administrator of the estate of Henry Funkhouser, deceased. Squire Van Winkle was charged with a disturbance at a religious worship. You, Squire!!#?

- w c h s -

Hildy Crawford of Palm Springs, California says: "I just received the November FLASHBACK and think it excellent. Thought Mrs. Harkreader did an excellent job on Peter Mankins. Have written to Mrs. Cannon whose letter you printed. Think I have a lead for her. Particularly like the Genealogy Section and hope you continue it."

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LaVerne Ballard, Granbury, Texas writes: "We do so much enjoy receiving each issue of FLASHBACK. And appreciate all the work it takes to publish such a fine magazine. Best wishes."

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J. O. Couch, Little Rock, Arkansas sends in 1971 membership and says: "I hope you will be able to continue your splendid publication."

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Lillian A. Sheppard, San Jose, California enclosed dues and "bonus" in her recent letter. She adds: "Thanks for your fine publication."

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# WEDDED IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

by Lloyd McConnell

(Editor's Note: Lloyd McConnell has begun the task of recording marriages of Washington County from 1879 through 1889. This is the first installment of those records containing notes from Mr. McConnell. Future issues of FLASHBACK will carry records of subsequent years.)

I knew a few of those couples who married in Washington County some eighty-one years ago. They are gone now, but I did know many of their children and grand-children. It has been a real pleasure to prepare for recording and publication a listing of those who tripped lightly to the altar, whether it was in a village church, or the darkened room of a country justice of the peace.

Those early residents did not have the conveniences we use today. There were no telephones, no radio or television sets. Railroads had not come to the county, and news was often by chance from some traveller. Most of it was "...I hear..."

Those pioneers did not know about easy payments, lo-lo prices or skyrocketing interest and service charges. They did know that they had to make their wood good--else they would end up at the bottom of the barrel.

They were sincere in their beliefs, their church and political efforts. The doctor came to see you. You walked to the school and the post office.

Washington County then, as now, was a good place to live, largely on account of those who came before us.

Lest we forget, let's take another look at them.

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John C. Allen, 35 and Mary A. Fields, 20 were married on December 23, 1879 by justice of the peace G. R. Murdock.

James W. Anderson, 55 and Mary J. Eidson, 52 were married by John B. Carpenter, on September 7, 1879.

R. L. C. Barnard, 23 and Alice E. Currealthers, 19 went before the Reverend Milton Smith, who asked the important questions and declared them to be husband and wife. The date was Nov. 9, 1879.

W. F. Bayless, age 29, married 16-year-old Algin B. Rico on Dec. 19, 1879. David C. Ross performed the ceremony.

Lott Beadle, 27 and Joice Smith, 18 were wed by justice of the peace Elijah Webb, on October 9, 1879.

James Bell and Lucinda Epps, ages 27 and 20, took their vows in the presence of justice of the peace H. H. Davis on Dec. 2, 1879.

Selphanah Bell and Lucinda Biba, 22 and 16 years of age, went to justice of the peace W. C. D. Evans on January 27, 1879.

John W. Beshears, 20 and Mattie E. Glover, 19 were married by the Rev. William Hatfield. The date was June 1, 1879.

J. W. Blackwell, age 27 and E. Alexander, 24 were in the presence of Justice William J. Roberts for a July 23, 1879 marriage ceremony.

L. C. Blakemore and S. C. Duncan, 25 and 24 years of age, had their ceremony by Rev. B. F. Totten on Dec. 3, 1879.

Thomas M. Blakemore, 23 and Jennie P. Allen, also 23, went to the Rev. James F. Hall, who declared them duly wed on Sept. 29, 1879.

Stephen Blankenship, 20 and Ellen Looper, 21 had a pre-Christmas ceremony on Dec. 23, 1879, by the Reverend E. D. Grigg.

H. E. Bloyed and Tonia Gilbreath, ages 20 and 23, wed in a civil ceremony by justice of the peace H. H. Davis on November 10, 1879. The West Fork community is represented here.

J. A. Bottoms, 28, and 34-year-old Miss J. W. Williamson were wed by the Rev. J. F. Dobbs on Dec. 8, 1879.

Thomas J. Bridenthal, 27 and 19-year-old Laura T. Rader went to The Rev. J. M. Shepherd and took their vows on October 29, 1879.

J. W. Brooks and M. B. Harris, ages 19 and 18, were married by the Rev. C. L. Howell. Their date was Nov. 9, 1879.

J. W. Brown and P. J. Hendrix, both aged 21, were married by Justice R. P. Baker, on August 17, 1879.

William J. Brown, 48 and Ellen Atkins, 42 asked Rev. John J. Roberts to do their ceremony on October 21, 1879.

Ordained minister N. F. Goodrich performed the marriage on August 19, 1879, of Henry Brummett and Rebecca Rightsell. He was 40 and she 30 years old.

Marshall Buchanan, 33 and Hattie E. Kelley, 23 were wed on Nov. 16, 1879 in a ceremony by W. J. Roberts, a justice of the peace.

George L. Cantrell and Sarah Westerfield were married on November 13, 1879. Justice W. C. D. Evans officiated. She was 16.

James L. Cardwell and Arazona T. Henry, both 17, were married by William F. Green. The date was Dec. 4, 1879. His authority was not disclosed.

S. P. Carroll and Fannie Fisher, ages 30 and 18, were married June 15th, 1879, by justice of the peace John R. Reed.

John Cathey, 21 and Delia Rose, 19 were wed on March 4, 1879 by justice of the peace Elijah Webb acting in his official capacity.

J. W. Cherry, 28 and 26-year-old Mary Day became husband and wife on June 19, 1879, the Rev. Jessie R. Loving taking the vows.

A. C. Clark, 25 and LueAnn Lewallen, 18 had John R. Reed, justice of the peace, do the honors for them on July 28, 1879.

George D. Clark, 29 and Amanda F. Callison, age 20, went to the Rev. N. F. Goodrich for their ceremony on September 25, 1879.

Richard Clark, 25 and Sarah Frost were wed at his home on August 25, 1879, with the Rev. D. D. Slaughter saying the rituals.

George Cline married Annie J. Mayes, he 23 and she 20, on October 29, 1879. The Reverend John Mayes, a Baptist minister taking the vows.

Elisha L. Cloer, 21, and 22-year-old Delila Johnson asked justice of the peace J. M. Sanders to read their ceremony. Their date was July 19, 1879.

M. S. Conley, 21 and Catharine Winn, 18 were wed by the Rev. Conrod (Coonrod) Yoes on August 7, 1879. Mr. Yoes was widely known in Washington County, especially in West Fork, Greenland and Winslow sections.

H. B. Cooper, 29 and Francis Graham, 20 went to the Rev. James A. Walden for their Nov. 20th, 1879 wedding tryst.

George W. Copley, 22 and 18-year-old Agnes Mackie were married by Justice of the peace W. S. Bartholomew, on Christmas Day, 1879.

C. H. Coverdell, 23 and Fannie Wilbanks, 22 took their vows in a civil ceremony by justice of the peace H. H. Davis. Their date was Dec. 14, 1879.

Leander Craft and Fannie Glover, ages 20 and 18, were married on August 4, 1879 with Justice William Hatfield performing the ceremony.

John Craven, 23 and Allice Jones, 22 went to justice of the peace William J. Roberts for their Dec. 18, 1879 wedding ceremony.

A certificate, filed with the County Clerk of Washington County, proved the marriage of John Crockett and Sarah C. Brown, who were married at the residence of the Elder D. S. Miller, in the Cherokee Nation on July 23, 1879. They were West Fork residents.

L. C. Cross, 19 and Margarett J. Phillips, 17 were in the presence of the Reverend N. F. Goodrich on June 10, 1879, taking marriage vows.

Clinton Davenport, 26 took his bride, Joe A. Jernigan, age 22, to the Rev. H. M. Welch, a minister on October 12, 1879. Mr. Welch participated in many Washington County weddings of the day.

Alfred David, 21 and Eller Ford, 18 went to the Rev. E. D. Grigg for their I-do's on Sept. 10, 1879.

Alfred M. Davis, 22 married 20-year-old Louisa Millsap on October 3, 1879, with the Rev. Edmon Osburn performing the service.

Frank Davis and S. A. Pollock, ages 22 and 17, took their vows before preacher N. F. Goodrich on December 15, 1879.

H. A. Davis and M. L. Freyschlag, ages 30 and 22, were in the presence of James J. Vaulx, the popular St. Pauls Episcopal Church preacher for their wedding on November 29, 1879.

Joseph C. Davis, 21 and Groven M. Crank, 17 took their vows before the Rev. Joab Caviness. Their date was Sept. 23, 1879.

N. E. Davis, 30 married 16-year-old A. C. Haradan on July 16, 1879. The Reverend J. C. Peters performed the ceremony for that couple.

John S. Dearing and Nannie Young, ages 21 and 22, went to the Rev. B. F. Totten who declared them duly wed on Dec. 21, 1879.

Robert H. Degge, 28 married Susan M. Davis, 18 with the Rev. John Hayes performing their October 26, 1879 ceremony. The Reverend was a Baptist minister.

Charley Demore, 26 and 23-year-old Elizabeth Ellis were married in a justice of the peace ceremony by T. B. Jones on October 25, 1879.

Martin E. Devin (sometimes spelled Diven) was joined in a trip to the altar by Harriett Kinnebrough, 20 on October 19, 1879. Justice of the peace Elijah Webb performed the ceremony. Diven was 22.

James T. Doss, 47 married 28-year-old Eliza Jones on July 9, 1879 with the Rev. N. R. West officiating.

George W. Droke, 25 and C. J. Campbell, 23 were married by minister of the gospel James A. Walden, on September 24, 1879. One Mr. Droke was long associated with the University of Arkansas.

Thomas J. Dutton, 18 and Indiana Scott, also 18, were joined in wedlock by the Rev. Moses Dutton of Goshen on September 14, 1879. The Rev. Dutton joined many an eastern Washington County couple.

John S. Ealley, 36 and 18-year-old Rebecca J. Thomas were united in marriage by W. C. D. Evans, a justice of the peace, on July 3, 1879.

Asa Evans and Nancy Ann Collins, ages 30 and 24, were married on June 3, 1879 in a ceremony by Rev. E. D. Grigg.

T. N. Evans and M. I. Brim, ages 31 and 25, took vows of matrimony before T. P. Boone, a minister of the gospel, on November 3, 1879.

(It is noted in the records that brides often gave only initials in applying for a marriage license instead of the full name. Hindsight being better than foresight, they did not visualize the day when Social Security etc. would demand answers to many questions.)

J. M. Ewing, 32 and F. C. Gilbreath, 30 were married by S. W. Davies, a minister, on Sept. 1, 1879.

George Ferrell, 31 took as his bride 18-year-old Dora Smith, and Justice Elijah Webb performed the ceremony for the couple. Their date was July 16, 1879.

Thomas Finn, 45 married Elizabeth Dunlap, age 35, with G. R. Murdock taking their vows in a civil ceremony on November 14, 1879.

John F. Fletcher, 31 chose 21-year-old Ellen Enyart for an October 8, 1879 marriage before Thomas Christian.

Dock Flower and Emily Lewis, ages 21 and 19, tripped to the altar on August 8 for a civil ceremony by G. R. Murdock.

Robert H. Foster, 24 and Mollie Culver, 18 became husband and wife on December 28, 1879. Baptist minister John Mayes performed their wedding.

J. B. Fox and Maggie Carswell went to justice of the peace W. J. Roberts on September 18, 1879. He was 22 and she a year older.

J. P. Frederick, 25 and P. J. Sexon, 21 married on Dec. 11, 1879, with the Reverend Moses Dutton officiating.

E. E. N. Fulgham, 22 and Emmy E. Cass, 17 were married by the Rev. J. F. Dobbs, January 12, 1879. The Rev. Mr. Dobbs practiced his preaching and marrying in the vicinity of Evansville, Morrow and Odell, in Washington County.

Richard Funkhouse, 22 and 20-year-old Lue Alberty had an October 18, 1879 date before the Rev. Isaac Brown. The Rev. Mr. Brown, due to lack of education, a broken arm or other difficulty, often signed a certificate of marriage by an X, and having someone sign his name for him.

Thomas Gaines, 24 and Lizzie Thompson, 16 chose justice of the peace G. R. Murdock to join them in holy matrimony on Nov. 16, 1879.

John A. Garrett, 21 and Fannie Ford, 18 were in the presence of Rev. E. D. Grigg on August 29, 1879 for their pronouncements.

W. D. Gibson and R. E. Taylor, 21 and 20, were wed by Justice H. F. Hartley on August 13, 1879.

Joseph Gilbert, 21 and 19-year-old Rebecca Barker, chose January 26, 1879, as their wedding date, and W. C. D. Evans, a justice to perform.

M. W. Goodpaster, 24 and 16-year-old Willie Buchanan were declared legally husband and wife on July 31, 1879 by the Rev. F. P. Earle of Cane Hill, popular Washington County minister of the Presbyterian Church.

Clinton Gollahar, 22 and Tennie Putman, a year older, told their vows to the Rev. John Mayes. Their date was August 24, 1879.

H. S. Gray and Ellen O'Neal were united in marriage by the Rev. S. W. Davies on Nov. 3, 1879. He was 31 and she 20 years of age.

James A. Grimes and Addie Eidson, ages 19 and 16, took their vows before John B. Carpenter, a minister of the gospel on Sept. 4, 1879.

E. Guthary, 22 and Tennessee Walker had their ceremony by R. M. Wood, an ordained minister, on Sept. 4, 1879.

John C. Handley and Lizzie Gude set their wedding for Christmas, 1879, and the ceremony by William Ingram. He was 22 and she 19.

C. W. Haney, 23 and M. E. Hale, 22 told vows before A. W. Wasson, a justice of the peace, on August 3, 1879.

J. S. Howell, 21 and Mattie Coble, 22 made their declaration and promises on October 26, 1879 before J. C. Devin, a justice of the peace.

P. V. Huston, 44 and 40-year-old Matilda Hewitt, took their vows before John Mayes, Baptist minister, on October 26, 1879.

Ellis N. Hutchens, 20 and F. A. Hanna, 16 were in the presence of J. H. Jones, a justice of the peace, for a civil ceremony on Dec. 18, 1879.

James Jackson and Ellie Johnson, ages 19 and 17, were wed by the Rev. J. F. Dobbs, on October 23, 1879.

James Johnson, 80 and Francis Phelan, 60 were united in a civil ceremony on August 3, 1879. Justice of the peace G. R. Murdock assisted.

W. M. Johnson and S. J. Sanders, both 29, went to the Rev. A. J. Vaughan. July 20, 1879 was their chosen date.

William Jones, 23 and 17-year-old Florence Grisham had their wedding on August 21, 1879, with J. B. Harralson, a minister, doing the chores.

Jesse Jordan, 63 and 52-year-old Antonitte F. Flynt, took their vows before a justice of the peace on Oct. 23, 1879. He certified that they were man and wife.

William Kilgore, 21 and Margarett Hill, 19 set Sept. 25, 1879 as the date for their wedding. The ceremony was by Moses Dutton, east Washington County minister.

J. C. Knott, 23 and Ella Peel, 21 were married by Joseph M. Shepherd, a preacher, on Sept. 24, 1879.

Thomas Lee, 39 and 35-year-old Elvira M. Tate, were wed on Nov. 16, 1879, with W. S. Bartholomew, a justice of the peace, acting.

Albert Lewis, 21 and Lucinda Williams, 18 took their vows before J. H. Jones, a justice of the peace. Their date was September 24, 1879.

Oliver W. Lipe, age 64, married 37-year-old Belle Manual on August 14, 1879, with the Rev. S. W. Davis performing the ceremony.

Reuben Lively, 18 and Miss D. Thompson, same age, were married by the Rev. N. F. Goodrich, on Nov. 6, 1879.

William S. Looper, 20 and Harriett C. Mitchell, 23, were married by the Rev. Goodrich on December 28, 1879.

I. L. Lowe, 33 and B. B. West, 19 had an August 11, 1879 wedding by the Rev. John Mayes, Baptist minister.

J. B. Luttrell and Mary M. Roberts, ages 21 and 19, went before the Rev. S. R. Beaman for their nuptial ties on Nov. 5, 1879.

Hosea J. Maguire, 27 and Miriam K. Campbell, 24 said their vows before James A. Walden, a minister of the gospel, on September 24, 1879.

J. L. Maguire, 21 and Mollie Harris asked the Rev. D. C. Mason to say their ceremony on August 17, 1879.

David Mahan, 23 and Mary A. Lynn, 22 had a holiday wedding on July 4, 1879, with justice of the peace J. C. Powell taking their promises.

Robert H. Marley, 23 and Amanda J. Smiley, 23 went to the Rev. A. G. Smith on December 4, 1879. He declared them duly married.

Charles E. Matthews, 24 and 21-year-old Maggie Proffitt set Sept. 11, 1879 for their wedding date, and Elijah Webb, a justice of the peace, read their vows.

Hugh May, 25 and Emily A. Phelin, 18 were married by the Rev. J. R. Loving on Sept. 18, 1879.

William R. McCalib and Laura E. Reed, both 18, were before G. W. Morrow for a wedding ceremony on November 9, 1879.

William T. McClelland and Ellen Chance, both aged 18, were married by William C. McDonald, who did not disclose his official capacity. The date was Sept. 18, 1879.

O. G. McCaugh, 21 and P. E. Shouses, 20 were married on November 5, 1879 by H. F. Hartley, a justice of the peace.

John McGuert and Tenna Speers, had a December 29, 1879 wedding performed by W. C. D. Evans, a Justice of the Peace.

John T. Metcalf, 21 and Henrietta M. Smith were joined in wedlock before Rev. J. A. Rouch on July 31, 1879, an end-of-the-month wedding.

George N. Mills, 21 and Susan C. Kelley, 19 were married by justice of the peace Thomas B. Jones, Sept. 29, 1879.

B. E. Mitchell, 42 and 34-year-old Mollie L. Hick were married on July 16, 1879. Deacon W. H. Kennedy tied the knot.

A. R. Moore, 21 and Maggie Reneer, 17 went to minister of the gospel Eli Baker for an event of Sept. 28, 1879.

Samuel I. Moore, 47 and 36-year-old Evalin Rutherford held hands and repeated their vows before William C. McDonald. The date was July 19, 1879.

H. L. Muncy and M. L. Alexander, both 20-year-olds, went to justice of the peace W. J. Roberts on November 2, 1879, who declared them legally wed.

John Murphy, 23 and Paralee McIver, 21 said their vows in the presence of the Rev. J. W. Dutton, August 13, 1879.

W. A. Neill, 21 and Louisa Mayers, 17 had an August 17, 1879 wedding performed by the Rev. J. R. Kelley.

James Nelson, 21 married 18-year-old Mary Barrington on September 1, 1879. The ceremony was performed by J. C. Thornton, justice of the peace.

Kenneth Newton, 26 and Elmira R. Henry, 24 were married by O. D. Slaughter on October 20, 1879.

John A. Niccum, 21 and Maryan N. Phelan, 22 went to justice of the peace H. H. Davis, for their November 29, 1879 wedding ceremony.

Charles H. Norwood and Mary A. Mason, ages not given, were married on February 11, 1879 by W. C. D. Evans, a justice of the peace.

W. J. Nottingham, 33 and D. A. Zinnamon, 42 wed on August 10, 1879 by Larkin F. Johnson, an Elder signing their certificate.

F. N. Nunly, 2 and Miss E. T. Brigmon, 22 took their vows in the presence of J. F. Dobbs, minister of the gospel, on November 13, 1879.

G. W. Ozburn, 23 and Susan Vauter, 18 had their wedding told on December 17, 1879 by W. C. D. Evans, justice of the peace.

Albert Parks, 21 and Rose Alberty were wed in a ceremony by Isaac Brown, a minister, on November 7, 1879. Mr. Brown signed the certificate by mark.

William D. Parks, 45 and P. G. Little, age 30 went before William C. McDonald who certified them to be husband and wife on May 25, 1879.

S. H. Peden, 44 and 45-year-old M. E. Trent were married by the Reverend James A. Walden on September 3, 1879.

John W. Perry, Jr., 26 and 22-year-old Emma Smith took their vows before the Reverend S. W. Davies, Fayetteville minister, on Dec. 29, 1879.

Thomas C. Petree, 22 and Annie Warnock, 18 went to the Rev. G. T. Bell on October 5, 1879 to sign their certificate of marriage.

H. D. Phillips, 29 and Annie Booth, 22 had a civil ceremony by the justice of the peace G. R. Murdock on Sept. 2, 1879.

Hensford Pippin, 22 and Malissa Simmons, 18 wed on August 31, 1879 by Charles R. Taylor.

G. W. Pridemore, 26 and Jennie Jones said their vows on June 16, 1879 before J. B. Harralson, a minister. She was 18.

Martin V. Rainwater, 23 and Fannie Maberry, 20 told their vows before J. F. Hall, November 6, 1879.

John Reavis, 23 and Dora Moss, 16 were wed in the presence of the Reverend J. A. Roach on July 21, 1879.

George F. Reed, 24 and 19-year-old Jenelle Davis exchanged vows in the presence and by the authority of justice of the peace R. P. Baker on December 14, 1879.

William Revis, 22 and Sarah A. Beavers, 21 were married by J. A. Roach, a minister, on Sept. 21, 1879.

William Rich and Rachel Kaufman, both aged 40, were married by the Rev. Joab Caviness on September 14, 1879.

J. T. Roach and A. M. Beler, ages 33 and 21, had R. M. Huffmaster, a justice of the peace, wed them in civil ceremony Nov. 25, 1879.

Charles E. Roberts, 25 and Sarah A. Timbs, 23 were married on August 3, 1879, with the authority of the officer, A. G. Smith, not shown on the certificate.

A. B. Rosenburg, 36 married Lucenney Bozarth, age 18, on July 24, 1879. Justice of the peace Elijah Webb spoke the binding words.

William A. Ross, 36 and Fredonia W. Blakemore, 28 went to the Rev. H. M. Welch for their wedding on October 26, 1879.

W. J. Rough, 26 and 17-year-old Mary Towler spoke their pledges before minister A. Huckaby on Sept. 16, 1879.

T. S. Runions and Francis Fletcher, ages 22 and 21, were married by ordained minister Eli Baker on August 10, 1879.

William R. Rutherford, 24 and 23-year-old Parthenia Collyer named October 21, 1879 as their wedding date. A. W. Wasson, justice of the peace, took their vows.

E. G. W. Sanders, 22 and Katie P. Smith, age not given, were married by J. F. Floyd on December 1, 1879.

John A. Sanders, 25 and 19-year-old Matilda Moore were married by P. B. Summers on July 23, 1879.

Christmas Day, 1879 was the date for the wedding of A. J. Sanderson and S. L. Draper. J. W. Fowler officiated. Sanderson was 20, his bride, 15.

J. A. Soarberry, 25 and S. A. Dallis, 29 were pronounced husband and wife on August 10, 1879, with the authority of justice of the peace J. H. Jones.

D. R. Scifres and Miss Sarah Smith spoke their vows before J. F. Dobbs, a west Washington County minister of the gospel on Dec. 18, 1879. He was 26 and she, 28.

Huston M. Scott, 25 and 18-year-old Almetia P. Stringfield were married by the Rev. Moses Dutton on September 14, 1879.

John G. Sexton, 25 and Rachel Williams, 19 went before L. M. Bell, a minister, for their September 18, 1879 wedding.

J. C. Shelley, 22 and Mollie Johnson, 18 were married by Rev. J. F. Dobbs on July 31, 1879.

E. S. Shook (Emory S.), 23 and Maggie Lee, age 28, were married on December 21, 1879 by F. A. Jeffett. Mr. Shook, father of Clint and Earl Shook, late residents of Fayetteville, was a merchant at Sulphur City for many years.

David F. Smith, 36 and Cordelia Black, 19 were married by W. D. C. Evans, justice of the peace, on January 21, 1879.

James M. Smith, 18 and 19-year-old Tanetha Gibson wed on August 14, 1879. John T. Boyd spoke their ceremony making them husband and wife.

J. B. Smith, 24 and Ella Smith, 19 went before T. Wainright, a minister, for a December 30, 1879 wedding.

John Smith and E. Paight, both 23, said their vows before Elijah Webb, justice of the peace, on Nov. 20, 1879.

W. P. Smith and Miss Francis Sparks, 25 were married on December 24, 1879 by the Rev. J. F. Dobbs. Marry Christmas to you both.

Joseph F. Stark, 40 and 38-year-old M. J. Roach were wed on August 2, 1879. S. W. Davis, a minister performed the nuptial chores.

Stephen Aaron Stone, 22 and Pheba Anna Gilbreath, 34 took their license to justice of the peace W. C. D. Evans, who signed for them on January 22, 1879.

Thomas T. Stone, 22 and 16-year-old Josephine Wiggs, sought justice William J. Roberts, who pronounced them husband and wife on July 20, 1879.

James M. Strain, 21 and 18-year-old Annie E. Strickler married October 1, 1879, with Thomas Christian, a justice of the peace, officiating.

Henry Sweitzer, 39 and Julia Cox, 21 became husband and wife by the authority of the State of Arkansas and Rev. T. P. Boone on October 23, 1879.

William Taylor and Tabitha Marshbanks, ages 29 each, married on November 7, 1879. Harrison Berry, a minister, took their vows.

Charles J. Thalman, 23 and Lee C. Geastin, 20 were married by T. B. Boone, a minister, on September 10, 1879.

William F. Thomas, 21 and 17-year-old Lauretta C. Campbell were wed in the presence and by the authority of Justice G. W. Morrow on October 20, 1879.

James Thurston, 24 and Mary Ann Bridges, also 24, said their vows before justice of the peace R. M. Huffmaster on Nov. 6, 1879.

Charles E. Vest, 30 and Sarah Baumon, 20 chose Dec. 15, 1879 as their wedding date, with J. F. Floyd performing the ceremony.

Henry Walker, 23 and Mattie Davis, age not shown, were married by Harrison Berry, a minister of the gospel, on Nov. 10, 1879.

A. W. Wasson, 27 and 19-year-old Dora Greathouse went to the Rev. James A. Walden for their nuptial ties on June 8, 1879.

James C. Webb, 22 and Mary L. Jones, 14 were united in marriage by justice of the peace H. H. Davis on September 19, 1879.

Samuel Webber, 25 and Mary Davis, 38 said their pledges before W. C. D. Evans, a justice of the peace, on April 15, 1879.

J. H. White, 22 and 16-year-old Nelia Wiliford were married by Eli Baker, an ordained minister, on July 13, 1879.

Joseph D. White, 24 and Olena J. Graham, 21 went before S. S. Graham, who signed their certificate and declared them to be husband and wife on October 23, 1879.

Joseph Willbanks, 27 and Lizzie Combs, 19 took their vows before William Ingram on August 24, 1879.

C. C. Williams, 21 and Maggie E. Bledsoe, also 21, were married by justice of the peace Thomas Christian on November 5, 1879.

David Williams, 35 and 20-year-old Sarah E. Anderson spoke their pledge in the presence of Thomas B. Jones, a justice of the peace. The date was September 28, 1879.

M. Williams, 29 married Amanda Seibman, age 28, on August 10, 1879 with justice Thomas Christian doing the ceremony.

W. F. Williams and Sidie West, ages 20 and 17, went before B. F. Totten, a minister, for their September 19, 1879 wedding.

John A. Wilson, 26 and Annie Stevens, 16 years of age, were united in wedlock by A. Huckaby in a ceremony November 30, 1879.

James Winn and Catharine York, both 19, went to J. D. Woolsey, a minister, for an April 24, 1879 wedding ceremony.

Oscar Woodruff, 22 and Laura C. Miller, 19 went to James A. Walden, a minister of the gospel, for their exchange of wedding vows. The date was Sept. 10, 1879.

James M. Young, 50 and Jane H. Morrison, 34 took their vows before and in the presence of Rev. B. F. Totten, July 6, 1879.

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Having known many of the old-time justices of the peace and notarys public, it was not strange that they spelled the names given them by the prospective bride and groom just as they sounded to them. For instance, Sarah was spelled simply Sara or Sari, and Lena was spelled Lener, etc.

One old-time justice of the peace, used to swearing in witnesses at trials, forgot his ceremony at an early wedding and simply had the couple hold up their hands, while he swore them in--to love, honor and obey--and pronounced them man and wife.

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CAN ANYONE HELP?

The following interesting letter received by the Historical Society on February 18, thanks to the Postmaster at Lincoln. Would you like to correspond with the student?

Dear Sirs:

I hope I am not intruding. Your address was given me by the very kind postmaster at Lincoln. I am studying the old-time American water-powered mill, and as a Dutchman, I am very interested in the town of Dutch Mills and how it got its name.

My request is if you would like to tell me about Dutch Mills, if possible, had its mills built by Dutch settlers? I am interested in all mills, miller stories, sawing, logging, millwrighting, old mills and remains of mills and hope you like to help.

Respectfully yours,

L. P. and E. S. Sybreitherst
Zwyndrecht, Holland

Lloyd McConnell can supply a further address on this young man if anyone is interested in corresponding with him.

## GEORGE W. WILSON, TRACE VALLEY AND MISCELLANEOUS HISTORICAL INFORMATION

By F. M. McConnell

In 1897, George W. Wilson taught school at Trace Valley. He also taught at Clifton, as did his sister, Sadie Wilson. The building at Trace Valley was also used for church purposes. Many of the church-goers were obliged to stand because there were not enough seats, which caused the church to be called "Non-Setter."

George W. Wilson was the son of William McLaughlin and Marguerite (Rogers) Wilson. They lived on the East side of the road which led from Highway 74 from the John Bassett corner to Lowgap. The John Bassett corner later became the James M. Bassett corner. This road which led from the Bassett place by the William A. Jett and Wilson places to Lowgap is now closed between the Bassett corner and the Wilson place.

Many years ago there stood a school and church on a bench to the West

TRACE VALLEY SCHOOL——ABOUT 1897

Left to right: Back row: Eva Swonger, Hannah Nelson, Mable Edwards, Frances Kinion, Commodore Perry, Walter Barnes, Ben Kinion, James G. Perry, Milton Hill, Leon Parker, Arch F. Perry.

Front row: Bessie Gilliland, Maggie Jones, Hattie Gilliland, Pearl Blair, Patsy Gilliland, Minnie Collins, Grover Nelson, Albrum Nelson, Otto Campbell, John Kinion, Alf Collins, Hugh Campbell, Earl Parker, John Collins,. Teacher: George W. Wilson

of 74 at the Bassett corner known as Radical Point. Hugh F. Reagan once taught school there, and it was at this church that the news came over from Parker Hollow that Henry Durham, who had been reared by Rev. Riley Jones, had killed J. Cornelius Jones January 24, 1872. This J. Cornelius Jones had married Matilda Lewis, the daughter of George W. Lewis. Later the widow married William Newt Jones, cousin of J. Cornelius Jones. Newt Jones had a drug store on the east side of the Fayetteville square and lived at the southwest corner of West Center Street and South School Avenue. The family later moved to Wyoming, Utah and Washington state.

The church and school building at Trace Valley was about one mile up Trace Branch west of the Middle Fork River at what was once the Wax Ford. Later it became the Gilliland Ford and later the Faubush Ford. A bridge was completed in 1969. Roads originally led up the Trace Branch, on both sides of the river in the direction of Mount Zion, and down the river. The one down the river passed the Peter Mankins home, but this road and the Peter Mankins home have disappeared.

Soldiers on the Trace Branch road included John W. Edwards, Co. C, 10th Illinois Cavalry; and E. L. Swonger, Co. E, 101 Ohio Infantry. Persons living on west of the old Trace Valley school included Tobe Collins and Charles Johnson, who have descendants at Fayetteville. Charles Johnson married Susan Collins.

The picture on the preceding page shows the Trace Valley school in 1897 when George W. Wilson was teacher, and also the names of students. In the back row, third from the left, is Mable Edwards who married Tillman Sutton, deceased. They lived near Claremore, Oklahoma. It also shows the three Perry boys, sons of Dennis Ichabod Perry and his wife, Sarah, daughter of Pleasant Parker, who lived on Parker Branch. Commodore Perry, fifth from the left, married Nora Hutchens, daughter of Alf Hutchens. They had one child, Lois, a daughter who married Wood Cunningham. James G. Perry married Effie Harris, daughter of B. F. Harris. He was a postal clerk on the Siloam Springs and Texarkana RPO. Both are buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Siloam Springs. One of their children was Dr. Neill Perry, an optometrist of Vinita, Oklahoma. Hoyt Perry, deceased, was another child.

Arch F. Perry married Daisy M. Ramey and she and her 7-year-old son, along with about 25 others, were drowned or killed when Frisco train No. 5 was wrecked about a mile south of Lebanon, Missouri September 15, 1914. He later married Rube Bernard and he is buried at Oklahoma City.

Rev. J. F. McCuistion married Julia Ann Kennedy, daughter of Rev. L. P. Kennedy, whose son Rev. L. P. Kennedy, Jr., was a minister. Their children included Bertha, Silas M., Ed and Fred (twins), Oscar, Artie and Gertrude. Julia Ann Kennedy was born April 5, 1862 and died April 22, 1951. Oscar married Rica Rogers, deceased, the daughter of John E. and Ida Parks Rogers. Fred McCuistion was mainly responsible for the development of Prairie Grove State Park. In the picture of the Trace Valley school when George W. Wilson

was teacher. Ben Kinion who married Selie Hood, and Milton Hill, son of D. J. Hill, should be mentioned. Milton Hill participated in the Battle of San Juan Hill about 1898. Several others in the picture should be mentioned, but space does not permit.

Radical Point school and church was built by John Roberson, John Bassett (father of James M. Bassett) and Owen J. Ramey.

Many of the Wilsons are buried at Baptist Ford, south of Greenland. Included are George W. Wilson, who married Berta Youngblood and his parents, William McLaughlin and his wife Marguerita Louise (Rogers) Wilson, and numerous other Wilsons. George W. Wilson was a prominent dentist at Greenland for many years.

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## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY TO HOLD WORKSHOP

"Grassroots Workshop" will be held by the Arkansas Genealogical Society from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Saturday, April 3, in the second floor Vera Snook Auditorium of the Little Rock Public Library.

Registration fee for the workshop is $1.00 and should be sent in advance to Mrs. Elaine Weir Cia, 4200 "A" Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205.

Purpose of the workshop is to help those who wish to learn about their families but do not know how to begin, and to assist those already tracing their ancestors but have encountered problems.

Registrants will be assisted by officers and directors of the Genealogical Society and other persons who have had research experience.

The Genealogy Room adjacent to the auditorium will be kept open during the workshop, with a librarian in attendance to help in research, and the Genealogical Society will furnish various forms which facilitate in organizing family data.

Participants should bring notebook paper, pencils, family records, old letters, old newspaper clippings, etc., which will expedite their project.

Those who wish may bring sack lunches. Coffee will be served by the Genealogical Society.

Members of the Washington County Historical Society are invited to attend this workshop.

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## GENEALOGICAL SECTION

ANGEL

My great-great-grandfather, JAMES M. ANGEL, was born in Arkansas in 1846. He was a corporal in the Union Army during the Civil War. One of his sons, Thomas or Tom Angel, was born in 1875 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. However, I have had quite a bit of trouble trying to find out about this family. They may also have lived in Mena, Polk County, Arkansas. I would appreciate any help given me. I am certain they were in Arkansas in 1880. Diana Irvin, 115 Nevada Avenue, Victorville, California 92392.

RODGERS-ROGERS

I am preparing a genealogy of the WILLIAM RODGERS family who came from North Carolina in 1834 to south of Cane Hill. At that time the name was spelled ROGERS. Any information would be appreciated. Mrs. Delpha Rogers Basden, Lincoln, Arkansas 72744.

BERNA

My great uncle was a veteran of the Civil War and is supposedly buried in Fayetteville in a military cemetery. He lived most of his life in Crawford County, Arkansas, where he was born about 1840. He was JOHN W. BERNA. I need any available data about him and will appreciate any assistance. Mrs. Eileen Wilkinson, 846 North 800 W., Provo, Utah 84601.

PRICE-MITCHELL

Want information on D. C. PRICE who was a justice of the peace in Fayetteville about 1850; also PRESTON PRICE or descendants of either (1850). J. W. PRICE m. DORA MITCHELL, 1877. ISAAC PRICE divorced EMILY PRICE in 1840. Were these of the same Tennessee family? Want parents of these. Did they have a sister Malinda born 1815 in Tennessee? Thanks for assistance. Alicia E. Hicks, 885 North 10th East, Mountain Home, Idaho 83647.

EDMISTON-DICKINSON-BENTON

Need information about the EDMISTON, DICKINSON and REN B. BENTON families who were in Washington County in the early years. Mrs. Fred McQueary, 2928 East Glenwood, Springfield, Missouri.

EDMISTON-WHITE-SLOWMAN-EARP

I am seeking information on MALINDA MARGARET EDMISTON and THOMAS FRANKLIN EDMISTON. I also want information regarding the WHITE, SLOWMAN families of the Summers community and the MATILDA CAROLYN EARP who lived in the New Church vicinity. Mrs. George Saunders, 3025 Kerry Lane, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. (Note: Mrs. Saunders visited the Society offices and courthouse last fall.

COX

I am an amateur genealogist, trying to determine the date and

place of my great-grandfather's death and the location and name of the cemetery in which he is buried.

His name was LINLEY HUNTER COX, and family tradition has indicated that he is buried in northwestern Arkansas. I have heard Washington County mentioned as the location. I wrote to the librarian of the Washington County Library and she suggested I get in touch with your Society.

A letter which I had from one of Linley Hunter's grandsons some few years ago, stated that "Lindley Hunter and one of his daughters left Montgomery County, Kansas about 1878 and moved down into Indian Territory." That daughter and this grandson's father were married in 1879. It is not known how long after this Linley Hunter lived, but it seems likely that he died in Indian Territory and was buried perhaps in a small cemetery near the line.

I believe that my father stated, while living, that he attempted to locate the cemetery one time; that he thought possibly he did locate it, but was told that it was overgrown with brush and infested with rattlesnakes, so he gave up the search. I do not remember where he said the location was, but again I seem to remember the county of Washington being mentioned. Any information that would help me would be appreciated. Carroll L. Cox, 1321 Holmesdale Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32207.

HOLT-JOHNSON-WALDEN-WILLIFORD-LEWIS

I would like information concerning two of my great-great grandmothers. Was ELIZA MIRIAM HOLT (born circa 1822 Ala) daughter of JOHN and HANNAH HOLT of Prairie Township, Washington County, Arkansas on the 1850 census? She married before 1838 to JOHN JOHNSON and died between 1848 and 1857. Where is she buried?

REBECCA WALDEN, a widow, married DAVID WILLIFORD, 7 August 1845 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Was her maiden name LEWIS? Who were her parents?

I would like to correspond with anyone having information on these families. Will exchange. Mr. Nathiel Kraemer, 523 Warner Parrott Road, Oregon City, Oregon 97045

WILSON-BURGESS

In 1840, ARCHEY WILSON and his brother SAMUEL WILSON, from Bedford County, Tennessee settled in the Burgess neighborhood of Benton County, Arkansas.

Archelous (Archey) married SARAH MINERVA BURGESS, daughter of RICHARD and ELIZABETH BURGESS, who is my husband's great-great-grandfather.

I have a reasonably complete record of this line of the family down to the present time, and hope to have it finished enough to publish before too long. Arch, Sarah, and the Burgesses are buried at Thornsberry Campground Cemetery, just off Highway 68 near

the Benton-Washington County line. Arch and Sarah were incorrectly listed in the 1870 census as Nelson instead of Wilson, in Osage Township of Benton County. Arch was born in 1808, North Carolina; Sarah, 1812, Tennessee, where most of their 12 children were born. The next two generations of our line are buried at Robinson's Yell Cemetery in eastern Benton County.

In the 1850 census a possible brother shows up as H. WILSON born 1802 in N. C., who I believe to be HARDY WILSON. Wife born 1804 in Ohio; Samuel, born 1835, Arkansas; Rebecca born 1838 in Arkansas; Salinda, born 1842, Arkansas.

In 1880 an ELI WILSON, born 1801, is listed, whose parents were born in North Carolina. Also, Sarah J., Born 1834, Virginia (both parents born N. C.) and Eli L. born 1872.

These appear to be four brothers all born in North Carolina who moved to Tennessee, then to Arkansas. Possible parents of them are listed in the 1850 census of Bedford County, Tennessee (where Arch and Sam came from), EBENEZER WILSON (79) born 1771 N. C. and Rebecca (77) born 1773, N. C.

I will be most grateful for any help telling me whether I am on the right track or if I am on a detour. Dorothy Wilson, Route 6, Box 33, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

BYRD-NEWMAN

I am seeking any information regarding JOHN C. (possibly Charles) BYRD and WILLIAMETTE NEWMAN BYRD of Nevada County, Arkansas of approximately 1860-1850 or of their children or parents. Mrs. Kathy Byrd, 36923 Hayward Avenue, Barstow, California 92311.

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